TRADE AND INDUSTRY

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Why the CRO will move to Cardiff

The decision to transfer certain Companies House operations to Cardiff has caused critical comment, much of which arises from a lack of knowledge of the extensive search facilities which will be available in London. Companies Division of the Department of Trade and Industry has prepared this article to explain the reasons for the move and to describe the information which will be available to users in London.

THE increasing workload at the Companies Registration Office and the problems of finding additional staff and accommodation in Central London have meant that for several years the service provided by the office has suffered. On present prospects Companies House will be unable to accommodate any additional files, staff or members of the public within two years. The Government have therefore decided that in order to maintain and improve the service the system should be modernised with modern photographic and electronic equipment. The main examination and bulk paper storage operations will be moved out of Central London, and the public search facilities at Companies House will be based on microfiche and microfilm method.

The problem in London

The most crucial elements in the increasing congestion are:

(i) **The growth** in registration work and in searches of company files has been explosive in recent years. Total work loads have been increasing by 25 per cent annually;

(ii) **Public search rooms** are grossly overcrowded with an average of 38,000 searches a week with peak daily demands reaching 11,000 and the demand is increasing by 15 per cent annually;

(iii) **Office accommodation** in Companies House is no longer adequate to enable the work to be efficiently organised and to provide reasonable facilities for the public. Some overflow into another building has been possible; but there is a limit to fragmentation which further impairs efficiency, inconveniences the public and puts the whole operation in hazard.

(iv) **File storage** is a special feature of the operation. There are about 20 miles of shelving with files weighing 2,000 tons. This concentration poses a special problem which cannot be met in ordinary office buildings. Some files are already being stored outside Companies House, involving serious delay when they are wanted for searching;

(v) **Staff shortages.** In order to keep pace with the growth of business the staff has been increased from around 600 in July 1970 to nearly 900. This one branch of the DTI is now absorbing some 25 per cent of all the Department's clerical recruits in London, at a time when the Department, in common with other employers in London, is suffering from severe shortage of clerical staff. In the longer term it would (as many large employers have already concluded) be quite impossible to maintain in London the ever-growing clerical army needed to keep pace with the expansion of work.

Monthly Digest of Statistics

Prepared by the Central Statistical Office in collaboration with the Statistics Division of Government Departments, this digest is designed to provide industrialists and business executives with invaluable statistics relating to the economic situation in the United Kingdom. It contains a regular series of detailed statistics on a wide range of subjects which include the following: *Labour, Fuel and Power, External Trade, Wages and Prices, Industrial Production, Industrial Materials, Finance.*

Price 63p (*by post* 72½p). Annual Subscription £8.60 including postage, and a copy of the Definitions of items and units employed in the Digest.

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With the limitations on existing capacity, backlogs of work must grow. The present delay in new registrations has been brought down to a few days by extra staff and overtime, but is now increasing again; pursuit of default in filing accounts is some two years behind. The continued expansion must however be met because of statutory obligations, both because the public who pay directly for the operation are entitled to a proper service and because an efficient service at the CRO is an essential part of a properly functioning commercial community.

Administrative and legislative remedies

Every effort has been made to improve efficiency and save staff by mechanisation. More is planned but a major breakthrough cannot be made without taking advantage of modern information and retrieval technique, ie the use of microfilming. An extensive system of microfilming company records is now under way. A computer system is being installed which will accelerate the identification and pursuit of late filing of returns and accounts.

Legislation, as indicated in the Company Law White Paper, is planned to reduce to a more economically justifiable level the flow of company registrations, and to improve the system for securing prompt filing of annual accounts. Other improvements in the work-flow are being considered in the context of the new legislation.

Decision to transfer work to Cardiff

Despite the improvements foreseeable from these measures, the trend will remain inexorably upwards, the long-term problem cannot be solved by these shorter-term methods alone. It is against this background that the Government has decided that much of the routine work now done at Companies House must be moved out of the City. The possibility of moving to another location in the London area was considered but no building which would meet the special requirements could be available in time; and, in any case, the staffing difficulties would remain. A team which was set up within the Department in August 1972 to study the future of the Office recommended that the new location should meet two requirements: that travel from and return to London should be possible in the same day; and that the area should be able to attract and provide the necessary staff. It considered that the Cardiff/Newport area would satisfy both these criteria. The Hardman Report subsequently and independently supported the view that the operation could be moved and named Cardiff/Newport as its 'recommended and efficient' location. The Crown building in Cardiff can be suitably extended within the timescale required. Both Hardman and more recently the Department have obtained assurances from the local authority and the Welsh Office that the staff can be recruited in the area.

Proposed new arrangements

The Department consulted the main users of the CRO facilities before deciding to move the operation to Cardiff. Companies House in London will remain the principal public search facility served by a microfiche system. There will be a fiche envelope for each company on the register which we propose should include the following:

Set 1 (1 or more fiches as necessary)

Incorporation documents
Subsequently amended Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Any documents changing structure or capital of company—eg conversions, re-constructions, schemes of arrangements, Orders of Courts, agreements, contracts, increases of capital, returns of allotments, appointments of liquidator or receiver, reduction of capital.

Situation of registered office and any changes in last seven years.

Appointments of directors and any changes in last seven years.

Set 2 Annual Returns, including Accounts, Directors Reports and shareholders particulars (see below)—last three years filed. As further returns are filed in later years these will be added to give a maximum of about six-seven years depending on length.

Set 3 The complete Mortgage Register.

All documents relating to Mortgage and Charges (created or satisfied).

For large companies with bulky lists of shareholders, a microfilm copy, on reels, will be made available with special readers. Small lists of shareholders will be shown in the annual returns, or as annexed documents, in the fiches.

This means that all documents received will be microfilmed and available both in London and Cardiff. The only people who will require to consult original files in Cardiff will be those requiring information other than the items retained permanently on film.

Users will find the service improved, as they will not have to wait for a complete file to be produced nor will they have to wait for another to finish with a particular file, and photographic copies will be much more rapidly available. When the system is working there will be an additional service for major users; copies of all photographs of new documents as they are made will be able to be posted to contract subscribers. No comparable service is now available.

Special investigations are in hand to provide up to the minute details of mortgages or charges which have been lodged but have not yet been included in the appropriate microfiche. There are rapid developments in document facsimile transmission today and the details of the system will be settled in the light of developments and consultations.

Further consultations with interested parties are taking place about other facilities which are few in number but important to financial institutions in the City. These include lodgings of Prospectuses, Orders of Court, Rights Issues and details of Windings up and Receiverships. The small number of people who need to browse in an old file will need to go to Cardiff, but the consultations mentioned above will take account of the special needs of this type.

Register of Business Names

The future of the Register of Business Names is under review and it will remain in London until the transfer of the other sectors has been completed, by which time its future should have been decided.

Conclusion

The decision to move out of London the great bulk of the company files and the staff needed to maintain them has been taken because unless this is done it will not be possible to continue to provide an adequate service beyond the next two years. We entirely recognise the need to provide the best possible facility in the City and we are consulting widely on how best to achieve this. We are satisfied that the final result will be a greatly improved service for practically all users, compared with what would be possible if the files remained in London.

The British Government and the North Sea

The following extracts are taken from a speech by Mr. Christopher Chataway, Minister for Industrial Development, on November 14 at a Conference on North Sea Oil and Gas organised by the *Financial Times* and *Petroleum Times* in Houston, Texas.

THIS Conference could not come at a more topical moment for the subject of oil supplies. Middle East events underline the good fortune of the United Kingdom in having the North Sea finds on our doorstep. Indeed it is no exaggeration to say that what has happened and is indeed still happening in the North Sea is one of the most important developments in the UK, certainly in this century and probably since the Industrial Revolution.

It is now history, but very recent as people tend to forget, that what triggered of interest in the North Sea was the discovery of large deposits of gas in Holland at Groningen in 1959 and 1962. That led in 1962 and 1963 to increasing interest in the offshore areas and as many as 20 oil companies, mostly American, were carrying out seismic, gravity and magnetic surveys in what is now established as the Southern Basin of the North Sea. The United Kingdom's Continental Shelf Act was passed in 1964.

To highlight the speed of events over the past few years let me remind you of a few significant dates. The first UK licences were issued in late 1964. The first well was spudded in by an American company on December 26, 1964 using the drilling rig 'Mr. Cap'. December 1965 the first commercially viable gas field was proved by BP (as Mr. Warman may already have told you). By the time this gas began to flow ashore in March 1967, three other gas fields had been proved commercial, one of them was Leman Bank which is the biggest proved offshore field in the world.

Gas from offshore UK is now providing over 90 per cent of the nation's gas requirements. The size and pace of discoveries has transformed the UK gas industry and by 1975 sales should be more than three times greater than in 1967. It is ironic to think that not much more than 10 years ago some people were seriously asking whether the UK gas industry—still based as it then was almost entirely on coal carbonisation—had any future at all. The way in which that industry has, within less than 15 years, coped not just with one technological revolution —from coal to oil—but a second as well—from oil to natural gas—is a remarkable tale in itself. The technology of reforming oil products into gas developed in the UK, which has since proved its value in the international scene, and found favour with a number of utilities here, is a major success story on its own. But it is a story that is incidental to the North Sea picture and I cannot do more than allude to it now.

The pace of North Sea oil development is even more remarkable than that of gas. Although oil had been found in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea by Phillips late in 1969 (the Ekofisk Field) and there were prospects in the UK sector, it was not until the end of 1971 that BP were able to announce that their Forties Field was of major importance. Since then eight other oil fields have proved to be commercially viable and several other fields look promising. Future prospects are encouraging, but I do not need to remind you of the pitfalls of oil forecasting, particularly when the scene of operations is offshore, in a combination of water depths and weather conditions never experienced before. The latest forecasts of production that we can make are that in 1980 production is likely to be within the range 70-100 million tons. This is equivalent to one-half to two-thirds or even more of our requirements by then. As a result of successes this year we now seem assured of reaching the bottom end of this forecast range and any further discoveries in the next year or two would bring us in sight of the top end of the range. The first oil should come ashore at the end of next year or early in 1975 but the rate of production in these first few years will depend upon the solution of technical problems which confront the industry in this hostile environment.

Essentially, what I have done so far is describe the development of the UK North Sea resources to date. The policies of the Governments in Britain at the time involving essentially three or four administrations—are apparent from the course of events. The scene was set by the 1964 Continental Shelf Act. Four licensing rounds followed over the succeeding years up to the fourth round, for which the administration that I represent was responsible in 1970/1971; how do we now sum up where we stand?

Our first aim

Our first aim is to see that the North Sea reserves found so far are exploited with the minimum of delay. Quite apart from the normal commercial fact that companies with a great deal of capital at stake in exploring and developing offshore areas are entitled to see a return on their investment as quickly as is reasonable, there is also the current spur of oil shortages across the world to emphasise the need for rapid development to help maintain the maximum possible assurance of oil availability. The impact of North Sea oil on the UK economy in the immediate and longer term is going to be of major significance. With very substantial savings in foreign exchange, we can look forward to considerable and increasing benefits to our balance of payments. So briefly, we want to ensure that we secure the benefits of the resources discovered with all practicable speed.

Up to now, American companies have played a major part in the development of the North Sea and this is scarcely surprising because of their numerical superiority, technical expertise and ownership of—or access to—offshore drilling equipment. The following figures will illustrate the substantial stake that American companies have in the North Sea.

(a) Of 237 companies holding 210 licences covering over 42,000 square miles of UK Continental Shelf, 99 are American owned, 75 are British owned and the remainder have their roots in 12 other countries.

(b) These 99 US companies hold 44 per cent of the territory licensed compared with 33 per cent held by British companies.

(c) Esso Petroleum the subsidiary of Exxon, formerly Standard Oil of New Jersey, is the third largest licensee holding 6.4 per cent of licensed territory.

(d) Many US companies have shares in proven gas reserves including Esso, Amoco, Phillips, Atlantic Richfield, and Continental Oil. Similarly US companies have a big stake in oil reserves so far proved. They figure in eight of the nine fields so far proven and in a number of the other promising discoveries. In addition to Esso who have a 50 per cent share with Shell in three fields, about a dozen American companies have interests in oil discoveries already made.

As to licensing policy for the future, there are three principles on which our approach is based:

First, we want to ensure the continuation of rapid and thorough exploration;

Secondly, we want a fair return to the nation as a whole from the depletion of a national resource;

Thirdly, we want to see that British firms are given a full and fair opportunity to compete for orders for goods and services.

You probably all know that various aspects of our licensing policy, including the question of the appropriate return to the nation as a whole, are under review and I cannot of course go into them now. But I should like to say something about the third item—the need to see that British firms have a fair opportunity to compete for offshore business.

It is now clear to all that the industrial opportunities opened up by the exploration and development of the North Sea resources are tremendous. It was not always as clearly recognised as it is today. In the 1960s, when the Southern Basin gas fields were being developed, many people could not believe our good fortune. Many of them thought that it could only be a flash in the pan and that there could not be a long-term market for goods serving the offshore industry. A lot of people must—or certainly should—now be kicking themselves over lost opportunities.

Regional implications

The oil discoveries in the Northern Basin are particularly important to us because of their regional implications. The impact of industrial development is naturally coming in Scotland and the North East of England which are among the areas designated as in need of development because of their recent history of persistent high unemployment. If oil or gas is found in the Celtic Sea we can expect Wales and the South West—both also 'assisted areas'—to benefit. What we have been concerned to ensure is that this time the opportunities are both fully recognised and fully seized.

Now it may be argued that, if the opportunities are so great and obvious, why should the Government concern itself at all with the problems? Why not leave it all to industry's own initiative?

First, I think the Government is in a position to take a rather wider perspective than any individual firm. In line with this, we commissioned a study by independent consultants, IMEG, on the Potential Benefits to British Industry from Offshore Oil and Gas Developments. The published version of this was a sell-out practically overnight and it sparked off a great deal of new interest in many quarters. In line with its central recommendation we set up a new Offshore Supplies Office in my Department reflecting the importance we attach to this new source of prosperity for us.

Secondly, the background of substantial overseas participation in our offshore concessions needs to be borne in mind when you look at our policy on offshore supplies. Some have accused us of crude protectionism and discrimination in favour of British companies over the supply of goods and services for offshore development. That is not so. I make no bones about the fact that I would like to see British industry win a greater—and an increasing—share of offshore business not just in UK waters but world-wide. But I want to see it win that share on its merits in a competitive market. It would be quite wrong—and I believe, against Britain's long-term interests—for us to try to force on operating companies British products that were unsuitable or basically uncompetitive. The final decision must rest with the purchaser himself. But I believe we do have a right—and indeed a duty—to insist that British firms are given a full and fair opportunity to compete for the business that has arisen off our shores; and it is perfectly reasonable for us to take account of the extent to which operators do give such opportunities in the allocation of any future licences.

BP's drilling platform 'Sea Quest' in the North Sea east of Aberdeen.

There is no doubt that things are moving in the UK in the offshore supply business and interest is very keen. There are now many—almost too many I sometimes think—conferences throughout the country on the offshore opportunities. A great deal of investment, time and effort is now being devoted to offshore business. Many British firms exhibited at the Offshore Technology Conference here in Houston this year and many more hope to come next year. Houston must now be getting used to the sight and sound of British businessmen who have been here in droves recently. We are taking the business very seriously. Already UK firms are winning a sizeable share of the business, probably about half of it. For a number of items—such as gas turbines—British firms have an established reputation and we have quickly acquired the ability to engineer other critical items such as main oil line pumps, water injection pumps and complete power generation modules. Our consulting engineers have a great part to play: one of the papers to be presented tomorrow will describe their work. Over the field of offshore activity as a whole, we owe a great deal to US know-how, expertise and investment—and I willingly acknowledge the contribution this has made to our economic welfare. I may say that I see considerable scope for ventures in the future that combine American or anyone else's skills and resources with those we have in Britain. We want to build up a genuine UK capability in the offshore business and where others can help us in that aim we welcome it.

We have asked the operating companies to let us have quarterly returns of their purchases, showing what items have been bought from UK based firms and what from overseas. These enable us to assess authoritatively what proportion of the business the country is getting. We also want to know for what items UK firms are not competitive and why. Without that information, British firms cannot know what improvements they need to make to enable them to offer what is required; without that information we cannot know what services British firms do not offer at all. The exercise is also designed to help to ensure that British firms capable of competing are not overlooked. We all know of the tendency any

(continued on next page)

operator in any sphere has of turning automatically to the supplier he has known over the years. In the North Sea, with the high proportion of foreign participation I have mentioned, that tendency can lead to British firms—new to the particular market—simply being overlooked. We are concerned to see that that does not happen. It is certainly no part of our purpose to deflect contracting companies from judgements made on sound objective commercial grounds. It is our case that such a judgement cannot be made unless all sources of supply are fully considered.

There are many examples around the world where Governments have reacted in a totally discriminatory way to the sort of pressures we face over offshore supplies. For example, we have made no secret of our opposition to some of the policies of the United States in protecting your shipbuilding industry from the forces of world competition. But the keynote of our policy for offshore supplies is, as I have said, full and fair opportunities for British firms to compete for business. Without such opportunities, British industry could be put under a totally unwarranted and unfair handicap; given such opportunities, it is up to our firms to win the business on their merits.

Oil development has always been an international business, calling for international effort. The North Sea is certainly such a case and will continue to be so. The challenges are great but I have no doubt all concerned will rise to the occasion and overcome them.

Twenty-one years work towards higher productivity

Mr. C. A. Unwin (left), newly-elected chairman of the BPC, with Mr. Anthony Grant, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industrial Development. The occasion was a luncheon to mark the 21st annual general meeting of the BPC.

TWENTY-ONE years of achievement by the British Productivity Council were reviewed on November 8 at a luncheon to mark the Council's 21st annual general meeting. Mr. Anthony Grant, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industrial Development, was guest of honour.

The British Productivity Council was formed in November 1952, from the post-war Anglo-American Council on Productivity. Today, the Council and the Local Productivity Associations exist to assist industry to improve productivity. The formal aims of the movement have been expressed in the following terms:

> To promote higher productivity, by spreading knowledge, of better methods and by encouraging an acceptance of the necessary change.

For administrative purposes, the Council operates through eight areas, each with its own group of associations. These areas are: East Anglia and Home Counties, Midlands, Northern, Scotland, South East, Southern, Wales and South West, and Yorkshire and Lancashire. As one would expect, local associations are thickest where the concentration of industry is heaviest; for example, there are 18 local associations in South East England and the Home Counties, but only five for the whole of North England and four for Scotland.

The Council believes that higher productivity stems from good labour relations and constant innovation in the use of plant, materials, processes and capital. It is very conscious that the growth of any national economy depends on the rate at which new ideas are accepted and put into practice, and this in turn depends very much on the attitude of mind of those involved amongst employers, managers and workers alike. An important part of the Council's work is therefore in dispersing the suspicion and apathy that often frustrate the adoption of better methods. Some firms, of course, are reluctant to accept new and more efficient methods and the changes which these entail, and the Council, despite the very substantial measure of success it can report, would not claim to have penetrated every level and all sections of the British economy. The organisation's great strength lies in the Local Productivity Associations whose valuable work for industry is widely acknowledged. Success comes from the support given by industry, management and trade unions, professional bodies, educational organisations and the Press, and the vast amount of voluntary work done by members of the LPAs.

Not surprisingly, the Council gives primary attention to

manufacturing industry where its main impact is delivered at local level through the 60 or so Local Productivity Associations that form a network throughout the United Kingdom.

The activities of the Local Productivity Associations are self-supporting and are directed to meet the requirements of industry in their areas. All forms of activities are designed for the joint participation of management and trade unions. The LPAs include in their membership, management, trade unionists, representatives of professional bodies, educational authorities and individuals embracing every facet of industrial life.

Local Productivity Associations' activities include meetings, seminars and conferences, film shows, study groups and factory visits to see new methods in practice at various works. In the past year over 2,500 such events were organised by the 60 LPAs now in existence. Commenting, Council Headquarters said: 'this is a formidable total when it is realised that the majority of these events are held in members' spare time, and that a large proportion are voluntarily organised'.

Among the most important of the activities at local level are the seminars which grow in numbers, subjects and importance year by year. At these meetings, which in many cases last one or more days, representatives from member firms—management and employees—meet to discuss some special topic under the leadership of a specialist. 'These seminars,' says the Council, 'are one of the most effective means of bringing home to the companies represented the real value of the topic or technique under discussion.'

It is through the LPAs that the Council's aims are achieved. Their programmes include:

Information and Advisory Services—available to firms to assist in finding answers to their problems.

Seminars, Conferences and Courses—designed to study particular subjects at differing depths.

Study Groups—providing discussion, in depth, about single subjects or techniques, and allowing the exchange of practical experience between group members.

Small Firms Clubs/Groups—for discussion of the particular problems of small firms.

Inter-Firm Visits—to spread the vast knowledge and experience that exists within British industry. Arrangements are made by LPAs for firms to make organised visits to, and receive them from, other firms in their area. The visiting teams are small, and ideally drawn from managements, technical staffs and shop floor personnel.

Mutual Aid Schemes—enabling firms with problems to be put in touch with other firms or organisations able and willing to provide the necessary practical information or advice.

Industrial Films and Film Shows—the BPC produces productivity films. Over 60 BPC productions are currently in the COI Central Films Libraries: they are seen annually by more than half a million people from an average of 10,000 bookings.

Staff Visits to Individual Firms—visits by LPA paid staff to individual firms in order to provide firms with preliminary advice on individual productivity problems.

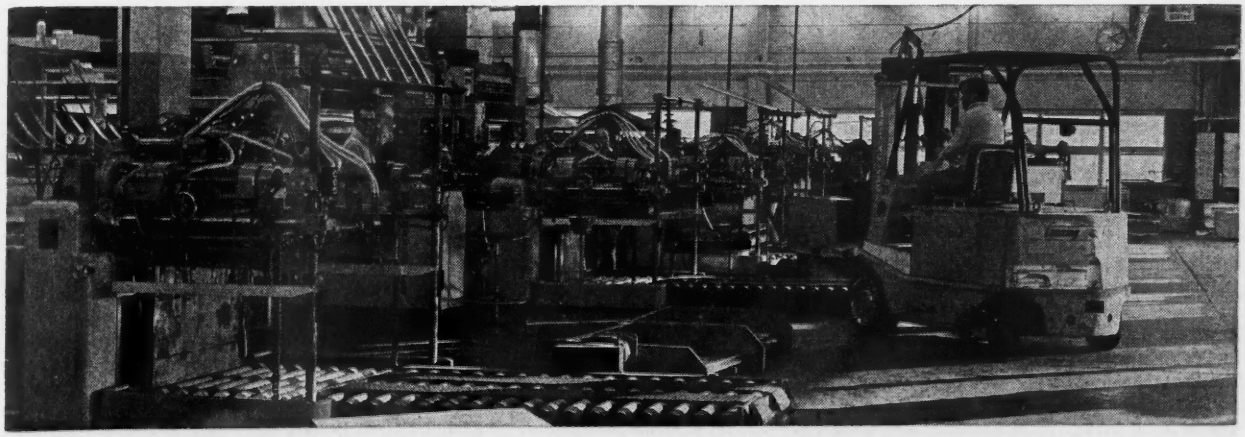
In addition, contact is maintained with Small Firms Centres, industrial education authorities and other bodies of a similar nature.

Examples of increased productivity from large and small firms alike are legion since the BPC started its work. They cover, besides manufacture and agriculture, activities such as transport, handling, sales and office routines, printing works, public works, fisheries, process industries, and so on. The Council does not, of course, claim full, or even major credit for stimulating all the improvement, but it is certain that the Council and the LPAs have steadily built up a mental climate in which thousands of firms are actively looking for new and better ways.

In London the Centre acts as a Secretariat for the whole structure. Its main functions include representing LPAs at national level; maintaining contact with professional bodies and with the CBI, the TUC, and nationalised industries—with the Small Firms Centres and with European Productivity Centres; and maintaining liaison with all LPAs and dealing with general inquiries and requests for guidance. All these activities are financed from the proceeds of an active programme for films which the BPC produces and sells or hires.

Mr. Grant praised the achievement of the productivity movement in continuing so broad a range of activities with undiminished zeal on its own without any form of subsidy from the taxpayer. It was a great tribute to the dedication and enthusiasm of those both at the Centre and in the LPAs, the Minister said, and he wished the organisation at least another 21 years of extremely active life.

Further information about the BPC can be obtained from: British Productivity Council, Goschen Buildings, 12/13 Henrietta Street, London WC2E 8LH (Tel: 01-836 0723).



At the Malmo factory of Platmanufaktur in Sweden, Europe's third largest packaging company, Lansing Bagnall electric fork lift trucks are used at all stages in the production of cans for beer, soft drinks, food, paint and chemicals. Tinplate, imported from Britain, France and Norway, is unloaded, and taken into store by a Lansing Bagnall FOER 9 fork truck, where it is held before passing through to the printing department. Pallet loads are fed to the 12 presses by a 7000 lb FOER 9 truck. After drying, the printed plate is automatically palletised and taken into a store by another truck. Lansing Bagnall electric fork trucks feature strongly in the subsequent production stages—taking printed plate to guillotines and on to the can making machinery. They then stack finished cans in a dispatch warehouse and load delivery vehicles. Working conditions are a high priority at the Malmo factory and the quiet operation of Lansing Bagnall trucks is an important contribution to the high output of the plant. The British firm's electric trucks replaced gas trucks because of fume problems in production areas.

Mr. Christopher Chataway, Minister for Industrial Development, watches a stage of furniture manufacture at the new factory of S. Englender and Sons Ltd. at South Normanton, Derbyshire. On the left is Mr. Norman Englender, joint managing director. The Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire intermediate area has a good record in industrial development ecently: in 18 months there have been 49 applications for selective financial assistance under the Industry Act 1972.

Development Minister announces £9 million loan for Sunderland shipbuilders

MR. Christopher Chataway, Minister for Industrial Development, announced on November 15 the terms of a £9 million Government loan to Sunderland Shipbuilders Ltd.

The money will be used: 'for the purpose of rebuilding and modernising the company's yard at Pallion, on the river Wear and for carrying out improvements at their other two yards at Deptford and North Sands.'

In a written answer to a Parliamentary question Mr. Chataway said:

'My Department has offered and Sunderland Shipbuilders have accepted a loan of £9 million under Section 7 of the Industry Act 1972. The loan will be for rebuilding and modernising, at a total cost (including capital and working capital) of £22 million, the company's yard at Pallion and making improvements at its other yards at Deptford and North Sands. It will be within the guidelines I laid down in my statement of July 23.'

Court Line took over Doxford and Sunderland, an independent shipbuilder, in August 1972 and made formal application for a loan under Section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 in January 1973. The shipbuilding company was renamed Sunderland Shipbuilders Ltd. in March this year.

Sunderland Shipbuilders are the first major shipbuilder to have been offered selective financial assistance since the Industry Act became law in August 1972. Most of the money will be spent at Pallion where a covered building dock will be built capable of employing 900 men.

'Starting in business'—free booklet from DTI

'STARTING in business' a free booklet produced for the Department of Trade and Industry, is now available from all the Small Firms Information Centres which have been set up in major cities by the Department with the aim of helping small firms help themselves.

It is the first of 14 pamphlets intended specifically to assist owners, or prospective owners, of small businesses solve some of their problems—and offer them clearly signposted guidance to organisations able to provide help.

Other titles to be published soon includes: 'Aids to Financial Management'; 'Diversification'; 'Finding Commercial Information' and 'Raising Finance'.

Three centres—in Birmingham, Luton and Newcastle—are already in full operation from purpose-designed premises. The remainder, in Bristol, Cardiff, Glasgow, Leeds, London, Manchester and Nottingham are operating from temporary premises.

Many hundreds of small firms have already taken advantage of this new service. A wide range of inquiries on financial, managerial and technical aspects have been received.

Problems can be placed before the staff at the centres by telephone or by personal visits or by telex. A 'freefone' facility is available and 24-hour answering equipment has been installed. A descriptive leaflet of the services offered at the centres can be obtained from the Department or from each centre.

'Starting in Business' was written for the Department by Mr. David S. Watkins, of the Manchester Business School. Its purpose is to help a person evaluate whether founding his own business is the right personal choice; to help him determine what sort of business is right for him: to signpost some of the pitfalls met in establishing a new business and to suggest sources of assistance and advice. The booklet also discusses briefly the finance needed and how it might be raised, securing planning permission, marketing and insurance.

Overcharging for re-sale of electricity and gas

A NATIONWIDE campaign, which began on November 15, aims to inform landlords and tenants that there are statutory maximum prices for the re-sale of electricity and gas. The prices are fixed by the electricity and gas industries, and for some years there have been allegations that the proper prices are being exceeded.

The campaign, organised by the Department of Trade and Industry and the Scottish Office in collaboration with the electricity consultative councils and gas consumers' councils, has been mounted to advise tenants on what to do where overcharging is suspected. The campaign may also provide evidence of the extent of persistent overcharging and so enable the Director-General of Fair Trading to consider recommending the introduction of regulations under the Fair Trading Act to make overcharging a criminal offence.

'Electricity and gas . . . how much can landlords charge?' is the question asked on posters displayed in Post Offices, Citizens' Advice Bureaux, local authority offices and other outlets. Special free leaflets are available in local electricity and gas showrooms, at Consultative/Consumers' Council offices and at Citizens' Advice Bureaux.

These leaflets (one for electricity, another for gas) explain that, by law, a landlord who buys electricity or gas and sells it to his tenants must not charge more than the maximum re-sale price. This price is quoted in the local price-sheet, available with each leaflet, which also explains how to read the meter and where to seek advice.

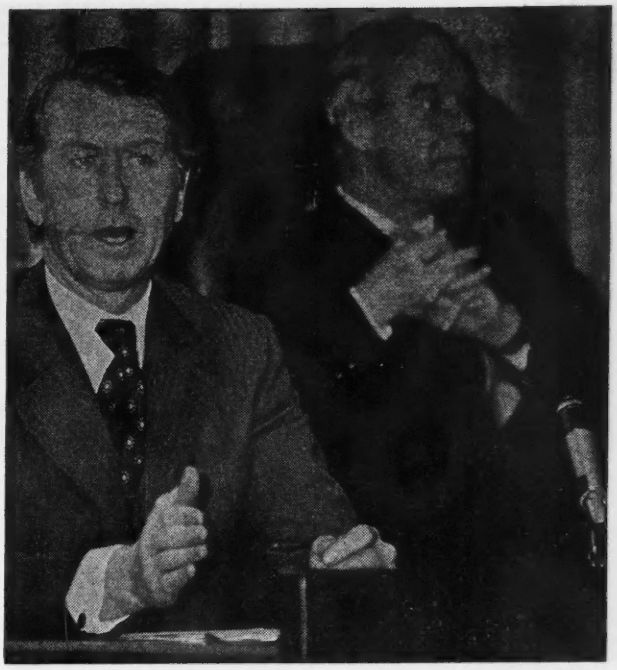
Section 29 of the Electricity Act 1957 provides that Electricity Boards may fix maximum charges for electricity re-sold by their customers to sub-consumers (such as tenants, hotel guests, lodgers and caravan dwellers). The Act also provides that if a re-seller charges more than the maximum, the excess is recoverable by the sub-consumer through the courts. Similarly, the position on gas is also governed by statute. Under the Gas Act 1972 (para 12 of Schedule 4) the British Gas Corporation are required to fix, from

time to time, maximum prices at which gas supplied by them may be re-sold.

Maximum prices were first fixed by the Electricity Boards in 1965 and there have since been complaints that the enforcement provisions are inadequate, that overcharging continues, and that there ought to be new legislation to make overcharging a criminal offence and thus enforce maximum charges more effectively. Any new arrangements for the enforcement of maximum re-sale prices for electricity ought also to apply to gas, since although complaints about overcharging for gas are more rare, it does not seem justifiable to take action to protect electricity users whilst leaving gas users in their present position.

The main difficulty of enforcement under the present law is its reliance on action by the user who is, or thinks he is, being overcharged. In February 1970 a consultative document was circulated by the former Ministry of Technology to all interested parties inviting views on possible changes in the law. After taking into account the views of all the bodies concerned and consulting legal advisers, the Government announced on February 28, 1972 that they had decided against introducing legislation because it would be unlikely to be significantly more effective than the present law. In any case, the evidence of overcharging was in fact insufficient to justify the expense involved in setting up elaborate enforcement machinery, entailing as it would the extension of rights of entry to private premises. It was against this background that the Government decided that improved publicity through mounting a special campaign would be of real benefit.

The passing of the Fair Trading Act has introduced a new situation. If sufficient evidence of overcharging is produced by the campaign, the Director-General of Fair Trading will be able to assess whether further action is called for and propose regulations under the Fair Trading Act to make overcharging a criminal offence.



Mr. Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, speaking last week at an energy symposium held by the Royal Society. On the right is the President of the Royal Society, Sir Alan Hodgkin.

Official appointments

MR. Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has authorised the following appointments:

Mr. A. G. Milne to be chairman of the South Eastern Electricity Board in succession to Mr. E. Sinnott, who retires on March 31, 1974.

Mr. S. F. Wheatcroft and Mr. D. H. Glover, re-appointed as full time members of the British Airways Board. Professor Sir Ronald Edwards, Mr. P. Parker, and Mr. A. W. Fisher, re-appointed as part-time members of the Board. These re-appointments take effect from January 1, 1974. Sir Arthur Norman, has indicated to the Secretary of State that on completing his present term, at the end of this year, he wishes to retire as a part-time member of the Board.

DTI regional directors and regional industrial directors at last week's monthly meeting at the Millbank Tower headquarters of the Industrial Development Executive. Mr. Anthony Grant, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industrial Development, is addressing them on his recent visits to the United States and Germany where he stressed the incentives for investment in the regions. On Mr. Grant's left is Mr. R. F. Prosser, DTI Deputy Secretary for regional development and small firms.

During a visit to the Belfast factory of Short Brothers & Harland Ltd., Mr. Michael Heseltine, Minister for Aerospace and Shipping, is seen talking to a production worker beside the fuselage of the 100th Skyvan. In 12 months, 31 Short Skyvan light transport aircraft have been sold, all but two for export. A stretched version—the SD3-30—is due to make its first flight next August. The Skyvan is contributing to Britain's increasing aerospace exports, which in the first nine months of this year amounted to £376.3 million.

Winter night jet restrictions at Heathrow being considered

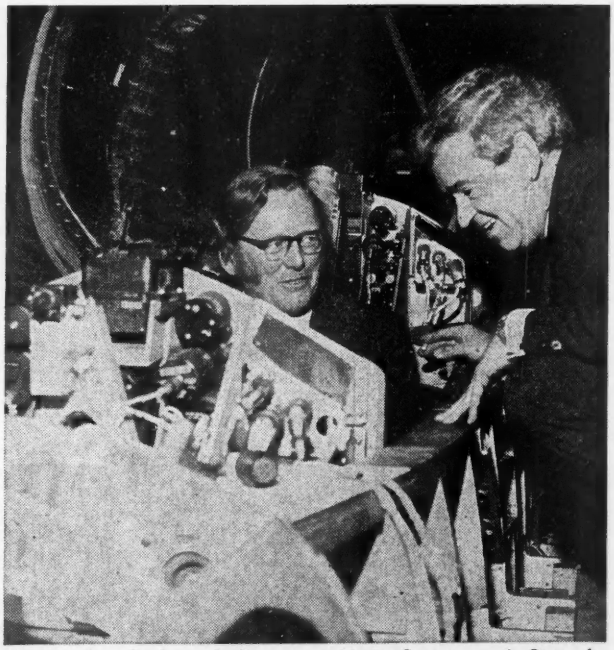
THE feasibility of extending into the winter period the restrictions which apply at Heathrow during the summer to night jet departures is being considered by the Department of Trade and Industry. This was announced on November 15 by Mr. Cranley Onslow, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Aerospace and Shipping when he addressed the Heathrow Airport Consultative Committee. Mr. Onslow also announced to the Committee that the Department is considering in conjunction with the British Airports Authority the scope for further improvements in the noise insulation grants scheme in the Heathrow area.

During his address Mr. Onslow described to the Committee the wide range of measures which the Department of Trade and Industry had taken to reduce the effects of aircraft noise in the Heathrow area. He spoke of the very real measure of relief which the communities around Heathrow experienced during the summer through the reduction of night jet movements by 10 per cent over the corresponding period in 1972. He spoke also of the very substantial reduction in the number of exempted night departures: during the summer of 1972, 516 night departures were authorised; in the same period of this year the figure had been reduced to 265.

Mr. Onslow also referred to the advantages of the new system of runway alternation which had been introduced during the summer. The new procedure—which operates when aircraft land from the east—has made possible a fairer and more predictable distribution of the periods of relative quiet between the communities which lie to the east of the airport.

Useful progress has also been made in connection with the ground running of engines, Mr. Onslow said. At the request of the Department of Trade and Industry, the British Airports Authority which is responsible for regulating this practice, had considerably tightened up its regulations on the ground running of engines at night.

In describing the prospects for the future, Mr. Onslow went on to say that the Department of Trade and Industry was exploring the prospects of working towards a longer term strategy designed to bring about a progressive reduction in aircraft noise in areas adjacent to major airports.



Mr. Cranley Onslow, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Aerospace and Shipping, in the back seat of the mock-up of the Hawker Siddeley Hawk trainer aircraft. The Hawk is due to fly next spring and 175 have been ordered for the Royal Air Force. The picture was taken during Mr. Onslow's visit last week to the Hawker Siddeley Aviation, Kingston Division, whose executive director for production, Mr. Roy Adolphus, is seen pointing out the main features of the new trainer.

DTI forms hopper club

A HOPPER club, a co-operative scheme between Government and industry, is the latest research and development project to be launched by Warren Spring Laboratory, Stevenage, one of the Department of Trade and Industry's industrial research establishments.

The club is the brainchild of the Laboratory's Materials Handling Division, and the project is designed to last three years. The scheme is being jointly financed by the Department and private industry. Eight leading industrial organisations—including one manufacturer—constitute the founding members.

Its aim is to tackle problems related to design of hoppers for handling and storing bulk solids. Feeder and discharge mechanism design, investigation of the high pressures which solids exert on hopper walls, and development of simple design-related tests for material flow properties will also be investigated.

Results of the R & D project will be presented to industrial participants at quarterly review meetings. Those taking part will also receive extensive background information accumulated as the programme proceeds. WSL scientists consider the scheme will interest a wide range of industries including cement, chemicals, fertilisers, food and mining.

Other companies who may wish to take part are invited to apply for further information to: The Director, Warren Spring Laboratory, PO Box 20, Gunnelswood Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, SG1 2BX (Tel: Stevenage 3388).

Mr. Cranley Onslow opens eighth IMCO session

OPENING the eighth session of the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organisation (IMCO) Assembly in London on November 13, Mr. Cranley Onslow, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Aerospace and Shipping, said that, in the legal field, the Organisation had brought its work in connection with oil pollution damage to a conclusion with the adoption by the Marine Conference of a Protocol to extend to substances other than oil the Convention relating to intervention on the high seas in cases of oil pollution casualties.

'It is now up to Governments to define their attitudes to the series of international instruments which were adopted in 1969, 1971 and 1973. I am glad to see that the Convention relating to Intervention has now been ratified by ten states; this gives us grounds to hope that it will soon enter into force. My own Government has introduced legislation to give effect to the Convention on the establishment of an International Fund, and we hope that, in conjunction with other countries, that Convention will be brought into force within a year.'

Mr. Onslow said: 'Last year, a very successful Conference took place in London which produced new International Regulations for preventing collisions at sea. My Government attaches great importance to the speedy introduction of these new Rules at the earliest date envisaged by that Conference, namely January 1, 1976. We intend to ratify the Convention in good time for this to happen and I very much hope that all IMCO members will soon be taking the necessary steps for their Governments to ratify it also. The new Rules, particularly that relating to traffic separation schemes, represent a valuable contribution to the improvement of safety at sea.

'My Government also welcomes the successful outcome of the International Marine Pollution Conference, which ended a week last Friday. Largely because of the careful preparatory work by IMCO, the Conference was able to adopt a comprehensive new International Convention on Pollution from Ships which will be a very great step forward in the total fight against marine pollution. We are particularly glad to note the significant requirements on the design of new large oil tankers and the new controls on the discharge of other hazardous liquid substances and sewage and ships' refuse of all kinds. My Government hopes that all concerned will work towards making the new Convention effective as soon as practicable.

'At the same time it is essential not to lose every possible benefit from the 1954 Marine Pollution Convention, which remains in force. In particular, I would urge all Governments which have not already done so to accept and give effect for their own ships to the important 1969 Amendments.

'The important work on marine pollution which IMCO is doing has prompted a proposal that the structure of the organisation should be adapted. Just as the Legal Committee was created to undertake a programme of work arising from the Torrey Canyon disaster, there is scope now for a new Committee open to all members of the Organisation, to carry out a programme of work directed to the protection of the marine environment. The Assembly has before it a proposal to establish a Marine Environment Protection Committee; my Government welcomes this proposal and hopes it will be adopted.

'Looking ahead, the proposed work programme includes a conference to revise the International Convention on the Safety of Life at Sea. Two years ago my colleague Mr. Anthony Grant stressed the importance which Her Majesty's Government attached to the improvement of amendment procedures to Conventions of which IMCO is depository. There now seems to be little prospect of bringing into force the numerous amendments to SOLAS which the Assembly has adopted, and this has led us to believe that there is an urgent need for the adoption of a new convention incorporating these amendments and containing a new procedure for future amendments. This we hope will be done at the Conference planned for next year.'

Mr. Onslow concluded: 'I consider that the Organisation can look back with some pride at its achievements over the past two years. And the continuing growth of its work programme and its increasing membership all point to a healthy and vigorous Organisation which is well fitted to undertake the substantial tasks that still remain in the field of safety and pollution at sea.'

It is not that the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Aerospace and Shipping has recognised an old friend. He was asked to wave—by the president of the International Maritime Consultative Organisation at the opening of IMCO's eighth assembly, in London last week. Speakers remain in their places, but, before speaking, must wave their country identification card. Mr. Cranley Onslow, who led the UK delegation, was asked to speak following the president's opening address.

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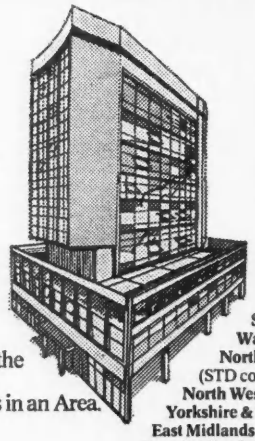
IF your firm is engaged in any of the activities mentioned above, you could benefit from the Government's new package of incentives to service industries moving into the Areas for Expansion.



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IF your move will provide at least 10 new jobs in an Area.

YOU CAN GET:

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North West Manchester, tel: 061-236 2171
Yorkshire & Humberside tel: Leeds 38232 (STD code 0532)
East Midlands tel: Nottingham 46121 (STD code 0602)
West Midlands Birmingham, tel: 021-632 4111
South West tel: Plymouth 21891 (STD code 0752) or Bristol 291071 (STD code 0272)
London & South East London, tel: 01-828 4355 ext. 50
Eastern Region London, tel: 01-828 6271 ext. 104 or 61
Northern Ireland tel: Belfast 34488 (STD code 0232) or London 01-493 0601

To: The Industrial Expansion Team, Department of Trade and Industry, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU.
Please send me full details of the grants scheme for service industries.

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Company_____

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TI 19/11

THE AREAS FOR EXPANSION

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Monopolies Commission reports—arrangements for reviewing undertakings

SIR Geoffrey Howe, Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs, announced on November 15 that arrangements have been made for keeping under review undertakings given by the parties in relation to matters dealt with in the reports of the Monopolies Commission before the Fair Trading Act 1973 came into force.

Answering a Parliamentary Question, Sir Geoffrey said that a certificate had been issued under paragraph 9 of Schedule 11 of the Fair Trading Act 1973 which applied to undertakings given in relation to matters dealt with in the following reports:

a. **Monopoly Reports**

The supply of certain industrial and medical gases (published 1957)

The supply of wallpaper (published 1964)

The supply of petrol to retailers in the United Kingdom (published 1965)

The supply and processing of colour film (published 1966)

The supply of household detergents (published 1966)

The supply in Great Britain of films to exhibitors for exhibition in cinemas (published 1966)

The supply of infant milk foods (published 1967)

The supply of man-made cellulosic fibres (published 1968)

The second report on the supply of electric lamps (published 1968)

The supply of clutch mechanisms for road vehicles (published 1968)

The supply of metal containers (published 1970)

The prices of ready-cooked breakfast cereal foods (published 1973).

b. **Merger Reports**

The British Motor Corporation Ltd. and the Pressed Steel Co. Ltd. (published 1966)

British Insulated Callender's Cables Ltd. and Pyrotenax Ltd. (published 1967).

A copy of this certificate has been given to the Director General of Fair Trading who will thereby assume the duties specified in Section 88(4) of the Act.

Notes

Under Section 88 of the Fair Trading Act 1973 it is the Director General's duty, when requested by Ministers, to take over the task of negotiating undertakings with the firms concerned following a report of the Monopolies Commission, and supervising the observance of undertakings or orders. But the Director would have no obligation in relation to any undertaking given before the commencement of the Act unless the undertaking was the subject of a Ministerial certificate under Paragraph 9 of Schedule 11, certifying that the undertaking was given to a Minister in relation to matters dealt with in a report made by the Commission on a reference under Section 2 of the 1948 Act (ie a monopoly reference) or on a reference under Section 6 of the 1965 Act (ie a merger reference).

Many of the undertakings following the (48) monopoly reports published before the commencement of the Fair Trading Act have been modified or superseded, or rescinded. The certificate applies only to those undertakings which are still formally operative.

Proposed acquisition by London and County Securities of Inveresk Group

SIR Geoffrey Howe, Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs, has decided to refer the proposed acquisition by London and County Securities Group Ltd. of Inveresk Group Ltd. to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission for investigation and report under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973. The Commission are being required to make their report within three months.

The decision to make a reference to the Commission does not in any way prejudge the question of whether or not the merger concerned is contrary to the public interest. It is for the Commission to report on this after investigation.

The proposed acquisition by London and County Securities Group Ltd. of Inveresk Group Ltd. is being referred under the size-of-assets criterion of the Fair Trading Act.

In order to avoid any uncertainty, the Restriction of Merger (No. 4) Order 1973, has been made and laid before Parliament to ensure that the companies continue to remain under separate entities pending the Monopolies and Mergers Commission's investigation, and consideration of their report.

Clearance of merger proposals under the Fair Trading Act 1973

ON the information at present before him, Mr. Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has decided not to refer the following proposed mergers to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973:

CST Investments Ltd. and Grendon Trust Ltd.

Standard and Chartered Banking Group Ltd. and The Hodge Group Ltd.

Moore Corporation Ltd. and Lamson Industries Ltd.

Argyle Securities Ltd. and Cornwall Property (Holdings) Ltd.

Flour and bread prices

DURING Stage 2, the principal milling and bakery companies notified price increases for bakers' flour and bread. The proposed increases have been examined by the Price Commission and have been substantially modified. In the case of flour the Commission's decision resulted in increases restricted to £2.14 per sack of 280 lbs. for Associated British Foods Ltd., £1.72 per sack for RHM Flour Mills Ltd. and £1.49 per sack for Spillers-French Milling Ltd. These are average increases across the range of bakers' and similar flours.

Mainly as a consequence of the increases in the price of flour, the modified increases in bread prices across the range are: 9.32 per cent for Associated British Foods Ltd., 9.62 per cent for RHM Bakeries Ltd. and 8.23 per cent for Spillers-French Baking Ltd. The Price Commission does not control the retail price of bread except through the overall control of distributors' profit margins, but the increase in the price of the standard 28 oz. loaf is likely to be restricted to 1p. The increases began from November 15 for flour and November 19 for bread.

Conference on Government plans for economy

SIR Geoffrey Howe, Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs, and Mr. Denis Healey, Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, will discuss the Government's policy for the economy in 1974 and the Opposition views of that policy, at a two-day conference on 'Pay, Prices and the Economy in 1974' being organised by the *Financial Times* and the Institution of Works Managers, on January 30 and 31, 1974 at the London Hilton.

Speakers representing management, unions, the Pay Board and the Price Commission, will consider the government's pay and prices policy in stage III, assess the direction that may be taken in a possible stage IV and examine the general prospects for the economy in 1974. They will include Sir Frank Figgures, chairman of the Pay Board; Sir Arthur Cockfield, chairman of the Price Commission; Mr. Tom Jackson, general secretary of the Union of Post Office Workers; Mr. Hugh Scanlon, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers; Mr. Basil J. Watkins, works director of Helliwells and Mr. G. N. D. Worswick, director of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research.

Chairmen for the conference will be Mr. Derek R. Portman, national chairman of the Institution of Works Managers and Mr. Victor Feather, president of the European Trade Union Confederation.

Delegate enrolment forms are available for this conference from the Financial Times Conference Department, 388 Strand, London WC2R 0LT (Tel: 01-826 5444 or Telex: 27347).

Addresses of ECGD local offices

The Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD) is a Government Department providing export credit insurance for United Kingdom exporters and insurance against political risks for new investments overseas. Although credit insurance is its main service to exporters the Department offers them a number of others. Firstly the Bank Guarantee scheme is available to exporters who have held an ECGD comprehensive type policy for 12 months. This scheme enables exporters to obtain export finance from their bank at a special low rate. Major projects carried out by British firms in overseas countries can be financed by the buyer credit technique which gives the exporter the bulk of his payment on shipment of the goods. Similar to this is the line of credit facility which extends the buyer credit principle to include contracts often with an individual value as low as £10,000. ECGD now insures 38 per cent of all UK exports. For full details of all ECGD services contact Publicity Branch, ECGD, Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2 2EL, telephone 01-606 6699 extension 258, telex 883601, or get in touch with your local branch office listed below.

London (City)

London postal districts E, and EC2 and 3, South Essex.

J. V. Baker, Marlon House, 71-74 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HS. Tel. 01-488 3491. Telex 886888.

London (South)

London postal districts of SE1-27 and SW2-20, W2-14. Counties of Kent, Surrey and Sussex, East Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and the Channel Isles.

G. J. A. Link, First Floor, Lancaster House, 70 Newington Causeway, SE1 6EG. Tel. 01-407 5011. Telex 888575.

London (North)

London postal districts of N, EC1, WC1 and 2, South Herts and South Bucks, and Middlesex.

C. W. Gentry, 1-4 Old North Street, Red Lion Square, WC1R 4TE. Tel. 01-405 8991. Telex 263615.

London (West)

London postal district EC4, NW, SW1 and W1.

D. G. Hake, Waverley House, 7-12 Noel Street, London W1V 3PB. Tel. 01-437 2292. Telex 24105.

Belfast

The six counties of Northern Ireland.

R. H. Forsyth, River House, High Street, Belfast BT1 2BE. Tel. Belfast 31743/4. Telex 74577.

Birmingham

Counties of Shropshire, Worcester, Warwick, Stafford, Nottingham, Leicester, Rutland and parts of Derby.

F. Wilmot, Colmore Centre, 115 Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 3SB. Tel. 021-233 1771. Telex 33132.

Bristol

Counties of Gloucester, Hereford, Wiltshire, Dorset, Somerset, Devon, Cornwall, Oxfordshire, Berkshire, West Hampshire, Cardigan, Brecon, Pembroke, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Monmouth and Radnor.

K. I. Humphrey Washington House, Great George St., Bristol BS1 5QL. Tel. Bristol 22102. Telex 44248.

Cambridge

Counties of Bedford, Cambridge, Huntingdon and Peterborough, Northants, Norfolk, Suffolk, North Bucks, North Essex, North Herts and South Lincs, including City of Lincoln.

H. Watson, Prudential Buildings, 59 St. Andrews Street, Cambridge CB2 3HA. Tel. Cambridge 67736, Telex 81624.

Glasgow

Scotland and the Outer Isles.

F. R. Burge, Fleming House, 134 Renfrew Street, Glasgow G3 6TL. Tel. 041-332 8707. Telex 77130.

Leeds

The counties of York, Durham, Northumberland and part of Lincoln.

W. Ford, Liverpool Victoria House, 8 Otley Road, Leeds LS6 2AN. Tel. Leeds 782121. Telex 55125.

Manchester

Lancashire, Cheshire, Cumberland, Westmorland and part of Derbyshire; the Welsh counties of Anglesey, Caernarvon, Denbigh, Flint and Montgomery and the Isle of Man.

R. H. K. Hughes, Elisabeth House, St. Peter's Square, Manchester, M2 4AJ. Tel. 061-228 3621. Telex 667756.

New York

In the United States exporters can obtain assistance from the Department's resident Representative for the USA and Canada:

J. A. Dorrian DFM, c/o British Trade Development Office, 150 East 58th Street, New York 10022, USA. Tel. 212-593-2258. Telex 420543.

Shoe manufacturers buy Barrow advance factory

CLELAND and Son Ltd., a subsidiary of K Shoes Ltd. of Kendal are purchasing a 15,000 sq. ft. advance factory at Park Road, Barrow-in-Furness built on behalf of the DTI by the English Industrial Estates Corporation. This is the third advance factory to have been provided by the Department of Trade and Industry at Barrow.

Cleland and Son Ltd. are well-established in the footwear industry as manufacturers of women's shoes for a number of nationally-known retail groups. The company intend to use their new premises for increased production of their competitively-priced women's shoes and will employ over 100 people.

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

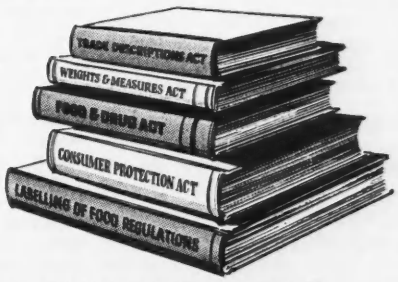
UNDER Section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following Patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the dates specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
October 30, 1973		
1,182,214	Ethylene Plastique SA	Method of improving the optical properties of polyethylene
1,189,269	Ethylene Plastique SA	Paper-coating compositions
1,190,682	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Concentration of aqueous formaldehyde solutions
1,190,683	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Process for preparing paraformaldehyde
1,190,684	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Process for preparing paraformaldehyde
1,190,685	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Process for preparing paraformaldehyde
1,191,569	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Method of wet spinning acrylonitrile copolymers
1,191,570	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Method of wet spinning acrylonitrile copolymers
1,191,983	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Preparation of ethylene oxide
October 31, 1973		
1,201,579	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Process for preparing sodium fluosilicate
1,202,109	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Process for preparing epoxy resins
1,202,684	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Process for regenerating baths used in spinning acrylic threads
1,202,687	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Process for preparing phenol and acetone
1,203,358	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Acrylonitrile copolymers and method of preparing them
1,206,200	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Method of improving the mechanical strength and life of moulded granular solid catalysts
1,214,540	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Method of regenerating spinning baths
1,215,860	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Stable liquid polyester resin composition
1,219,960	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Process for preparing unsaturated esters from olefins
1,220,323	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Process for purifying aqueous phosphorus acid solutions
1,230,493	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Formaldehyde polymer compositions
1,235,276	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Stablilzed formaldehyde polymer compositions
1,236,835	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Foundry sands
1,236,836	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Process for preparing a modified alkyl resin
1,268,251	Societa' Italiana Resine SpA	Process for preparing thermosetting compositions
November 2, 1973		
1,196,016	Ballestra SpA	Methods and apparatus for removing moisture from organic materials, foodstuffs and other moisture-containing substances
1,232,338	Alexandre Rasconi (will be known as TRAITEMENT INDUSTRIEL des GADOUES 'TRIGA')	Combustion chamber for liquid fuel
1,278,403	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	Process for the production of photographic images
1,264,379	Aciers et Outillage Peugeot	An electric rotating machine
1,286,989	Aciers et Outillage Peugeot	To variable speed controls
October 31, 1973		
1,127,783	Regie Nationale des Usines Renault	Windscreen wiper control systems

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patents Form No. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. ARMITAGE
Comptroller

Chipboard manufacture at the Weybridge factory of Airscrew-Weyroc Ltd. is studied by Mr. Anthony Grant (left), Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industrial Development. His guide on a recent tour of the factory was Mr. George Walden, group works manager.



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PARLIAMENT

Supplementary questions and answers on the points in these pages are published in *Hansard*

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Trade directory publishers

Two questions were asked on legislation to curb the activities of bogus trade directory firms. Sir Geoffrey Howe answered that the Unsolicited Goods and Services Act 1971 contained provisions regulating demands for payment for unordered directory entries, and criminal proceedings were under way which should clarify the effect of those provisions. Four prosecutions during the last few weeks all resulted in convictions.

Heathrow airport

A question was asked on the progress of a proposal to introduce a system of runway alternation during easterly operations at Heathrow and thereby decrease the noise suffered by residents in the Windsor area. Mr. Onslow replied: 'The Civil Aviation Authority inform me that the difficulties involved in runway alternation for easterly operations are serious and appear to involve substantial safety considerations. They are however still studying the problems, and I have asked for a report by early next year.'

Companies House

A Member asked how many members of the public had used the facilities of Companies House by means of personal visits in each of the past three years; and what proportion of them came from a business address in London. Sir Geoffrey Howe answered that the information was not available in the form requested. During the three years 1970-72 approximately 1,500,000, 1,700,000 and 1,850,000 files were inspected by or on behalf of the public. He estimated that over 60 per cent of these inspections were made by London-based company agents acting on behalf of clients.

Newsprint shortage

A statement was asked for on the shortage of newsprint. Mr. Grant said: 'My right hon Friend the Minister for Industrial Development has recently had separate discussions with both the UK newsprint producers and representatives of the newspaper publishers, and discussions are continuing. However, as he told the hon Member on October 22, the current shortage is world-wide and since we are heavily dependent on imports the scope for short-term action is limited.'

EEC steel prices

Mr. Boardman, when asked what discussions he had had with the Common Market countries on steel prices, answered: 'None. Steel pricing policy is a matter for the individual producers, subject to the obligations of the European Coal and Steel Community Treaty.'

Trade with EEC

'Why has the United Kingdom's balance of trade with the Common Market deteriorated since membership?' asked a Member. 'A number of factors, unconnected with our membership of the European Community, have played a part.' replied Sir Geoffrey Howe. 'Parity changes have made our imports more expensive before our exports feel the full benefit of our increased price competitiveness; world prices have risen; and our expanding economy has called for imports, for example, of materials and machinery.'

Coal-derived oil

In answer to a question on the possibility of deriving oil from coal until the North Sea produced enough to compensate for Middle East oil supplies, Mr. Emery said that the role that coal-derived oil could play in meeting energy needs in the UK was being kept under continuous review by scientists and engineers of the NCB and the DTI. A major programme of research and development in the USA was showing the way to considerable improvements in economics and yields over the established oil-from-coal route operating commercially in South Africa, but these new processes were unlikely to reach the stage of commercial exploitation before the 1980s.

Fuel consumption

Would steps be taken, a Member asked, to promote research and development with a view to reducing the consumption of fuel, particularly petroleum based fuels, for all types of freight and passenger vehicles. 'Research and development into improved engines for vehicles is essentially a matter for industry,' answered Mr. Boardman. 'Developments aimed at reducing vehicle fuel consumption are being looked at in this country and elsewhere. We shall encourage any development which shows real promise.'

Supplies to small firms

In answer to a request for a statement on material supplies, particularly steel and raw materials derived from oil, to small businesses, Mr. Emery said: 'The present high level of economic activity has led to a strong upsurge in demand and consequent difficulties with the supply of a number of materials, including steel and those derived from oil. The suppliers of these products have assured the Government that they will do all they can to satisfy the needs of all their customers, including small businesses.'

Ministers at the Department of Trade and Industry

Secretary of State for Trade and Industry: Mr. Peter Walker

Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs: Sir Geoffrey Howe
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade: Lord Limerick

Minister for Industrial Development: Mr. Christopher Chataway
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industrial Development: Mr. Anthony Grant

Minister for Aerospace and Shipping: Mr. Michael Heseltine
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Aerospace and Shipping: Mr. Cranley Onslow

Minister for Industry: Mr. Tom Boardman
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry and Consumer Affairs: Mr. Peter Emery

Minister without Portfolio: Lord Drumalbyn

Nuclear power

A Member asked for a review of the position of the nuclear power industry with a view to increasing its contribution to Great Britain's energy resources as the result of uncertainty of oil supplies. Mr. Emery answered: 'The Government has announced that nuclear power is expected to play an increasingly important role in the provision of UK energy needs. Towards this end the Government has encouraged the reorganisation of the nuclear design and construction industry in order to create under the National Nuclear Corporation a strong single unit capable of meeting the increasing heavy demand for nuclear generating plant.'

Mr. Emery was asked to state the total amount of money spent by HMG on research and development into civil nuclear power generation in each of the last 10 years; and the budgeted figure for 1973. He replied that in full commercial cost terms, net expenditure by the UK Atomic Energy Authority in the last 10 years on power reactor research and development was:

	£ million
1963/64	53.2
1964/65	48.8
1965/66	50.9
1966/67	51.9
1967/68	42.0
1968/69	41.3
1969/70	43.3
1970/71	41.9
1971/72	46.6
1972/73	48.7

'In addition the Authority has contributed £12.6 million to international projects, principally the OECD Dragon project,' Mr. Emery continued. 'Of the current year's grant to the Authority some £42.5 million relates to net expenditure on power reactor research and development and associated work. This is equivalent to some £50 million in full commercial cost terms. In addition my Department expects to spend approximately £10 million this year in support of the gas centrifuge process for enriching uranium.'

Radiation leak at Windscale

A Member asked Mr. Boardman when he expected to receive the report of the Nuclear Inspectorate on the recent radiation leak at the Windscale factory of British Nuclear Fuels Ltd. and whether the report would be published in full. Mr. Boardman said: 'My Inspectors are still inquiring into the circumstances of the incident of September 26 last. The cause of the incident has not yet been established. It may be several months before the investigations are completed. At that time I will consider whether a report should be published and if it will be useful to make a statement.'

Light water reactors

Mr. Emery was asked to publish the estimate made by the Chief Nuclear Installations Inspector of the quantities of radioactive materials built up in the US light water reactors as they continued to operate; what these fission products represented in terms of fall-out from nuclear weapons in the megaton range; and how many deaths were considered possible if 6 per cent of this material were to be released through accidents in an area of (a) 60-mile radius and (b) 100-mile radius. He answered that the quantity of radioactive material built up in any thermal reactor including LWR and gas cooled reactors was of the order of 5 curies per watt of thermal power.

'It is not possible to make a meaningful comparison between nuclear weapon fall out and the content of an operating nuclear reactor because the relevant processes and constraints on the dispersal of radioactive materials involved are different,' said Mr. Emery. 'No useful estimate of the consequences of any release of radioactive material can be made unless all the conditions under which it might occur are specified in detail.'

Coal-mining industry

Mr. Boardman was asked to outline policy towards expanding the British coalmining industry. He answered: 'My right hon Friend told the House in his statement on October 24 that we were discussing with the National Coal Board their plans for the further development of the coalmining industry. These discussions will inevitably be affected by the decision of the Executive of the National Union of Mineworkers to ban overtime. The effect that such decisions will have upon these plans must, at this stage, be uncertain.'

Mineral exploration

Referring to 17 projects approved for grant under the Mineral Exploration and Investment Grants Act 1972 in National Parks, a Member asked if the principal mineral sought in every project could be identified and the National Park involved in every case. Mr. Grant gave the information in the following table.

No. of projects	Principal minerals sought	National Park
2 (1)	Copper	Snowdonia
8 (1)	Copper, Lead, Zinc	Snowdonia
1	Lead, Zinc	Snowdonia
2 (1)	Fluorspar	Peak District
1 (1)	Molybdenite, Copper, Nickel	Lake District
1 (1)	Lead, Zinc	Lake District
1 (1)	Wolfram	Dartmoor
1	Copper, Lead, Zinc	Exmoor

Work has been discontinued on 11 projects. The bracketed figures in the first column show the six projects which are still active.

Machine tool industry

Questioned about action taken to assist the development of the machine tool industry, Mr. Grant said that assistance was provided to the industry in 1972 at a time of a deep cyclical recession in its order intake by means of a special scheme of public sector purchasing of machine tools. Mr. Grant went on: 'Finance has also been made available to Kearney & Trecker Marwin to assist the development of this recently formed company which operates in the important field of numerically controlled machine tools. I have been glad to note the marked and continuing revival in the industry's order position during 1973.'

Steel prices

A question on the effect of steel price increases on the economy and in particular on the costs of shipbuilding, cars, civil construction and housing, was answered by Mr. Emery, who said: 'It is estimated that an average increase in the price of steel of 1 per cent might raise the retail price index by perhaps 0.02 per cent, the exact effect depending on the way the increase was distributed between particular products. Motor vehicles, shipbuilding, construction (other than housing) and housing costs would be expected to increase by about 0.17, 0.12, 0.8 ad 0.01 per cent respectively.'

MULTILAB

A Member wanted to know the total investment to date by HMG in both hardware and software development associated with MULTILAB; and the Government's financial commitments to the future development of the system. Mr. Grant replied that the Government had so far invested just over £56,000 in MULTILAB and a further sum of between £5,000 and £10,000 remained to be spent in order to fulfil the commitment. This was less than half the total investment in MULTILAB; Computer Technology Ltd. had provided the remaining funds.

Gas centrifuge plant development

Several questions were asked on the URENCO/CENTEC gas centrifuge plant development programme. Mr. Emery answered: 'HMG is providing support on an annually declining basis to URENCO/CENTEC for research and development on centrifuges. The present estimate of the total cost to the UK of this support is £9 million. In addition, under the arrangements explained in the statement by the Minister for Industry on July 24, the Government is providing support of up to £22 million to British Nuclear Fuels Ltd. during the initial programme of collaboration. The Dutch and German Governments are providing comparable support to their industries.

'With the endorsement of the three Governments URENCO/CENTEC have decided on construction, as an initial programme, of 400 tonnes of separative work capacity to be divided equally between Capenhurst in the UK and Almelo in the Netherlands. On the basis of their assessment of the likely demand URENCO/CENTEC had also decided and are planning for expansion of capacity up to 2,000 tonnes by 1980.

'Policy on this investment has been developed on a Tripartite basis and no EEC finance is involved.'

British shipping interests

Mr. Onslow was asked about consultations with foreign governments, the Intergovernmental Marine Consultative Organisation, trade unions and other British shipping interests before proposals were framed dealing with the protection of British shipping and trading interests. 'The subject matter of the proposals has been discussed with the Chamber of Shipping, the British Shippers' Council, and with a number of governments of Western Europe and Japan, but not with the trade unions or with the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organisation,' he answered.

Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers

Mr. Heseltine was asked what representations he had received from the Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers and other recognised long established non-chartered bodies of engineers about their anxieties about their future right to practise; and if he would take steps to safeguard their rights. 'I have had numerous representations from members of the Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers and other engineering interests,' Mr. Heseltine answered. 'I understand their anxieties, and I intend to arrive at a fair and just solution for all concerned.'

Investment in motor-car industry

In reply to a question about consultations about under-investment in the British motor car industry, Mr. Grant said: 'Investment policies are amongst matters on which Ministers and my officials are in regular touch with the major British car producers.'

Nuclear propulsion for ships

A Member spoke of oil shortages and asked if a new study would be initiated into a new study of nuclear propulsion for large merchant ships and a scheme for making it more attractive to British shipowners. 'I have already arranged for the basic data in the 1971 Nuclear Ship Study to be updated and this will be done as soon as possible,' replied Mr. Onslow. 'When the results are available I will consider what further action may be necessary.'

European Space Programme

Mr. Heseltine was questioned about recent discussions with EEC member countries with regard to Great Britain's future role in post-Apollo development. Referring to an answer given on October 22 (*Trade and Industry*, November 1, page 252) Mr. Heseltine said: 'As part of the agreement reached at the meeting of the European Space Conference (ESC) held in Brussels on July 31, 1973, it was established that Europe's contribution to the Post-Apollo programme should take the form of developing the Space-Lab, to which the UK is to contribute 6.3 per cent of the total costs.

'The European Space Conference is the recognised forum for discussion of European space matters, and hence for establishing the response to the American invitation to participate in the Post-Apollo programme. The ESC membership is not identical with that of the EEC but includes all the EEC member states except Ireland and Luxembourg.'

Northern region

Mr. Grant was asked how many men and women, respectively, were employed in Government-financed factories in the Northern Region at the latest available date. He answered: '37,076 males and 38,386 females at September 1973. These figures exclude about 9,000 employed at the Aycliffe industrial estate transferred to the New Town Corporation on April 1, 1973.'

EEC regional fund

'As full Members of the Community we do not need to make representations,' said Mr. Grant when asked what recent representations he had made to the EEC about the proposed Regional Fund. 'We participate in the formulation of policy at every stage.

Regional employment premium

A statement was requested on the effect of the withdrawal of the regional employment premium

(continued on next page)

PARLIAMENT
continued

on the development areas, in the light of the most recent information on the attraction of industry to these areas. Mr. Grant said: 'The effect of the withdrawal of the premium will depend on many factors, including the rate and method of phasing out, the impact of our other regional aids and on economic conditions at the time.'

Mr. Grant was asked about conversations with the CBI and the TUC about the regional employment premium. He replied: 'Discussions with the CBI and the TUC have been held by officials of the Departments concerned. Ministers are now considering the position in the light of these consultations and other relevant circumstances.'

Merseyside

'My Department informed the Merseyside Development Committee in September of our decision that it would not be possible to justify giving Merseyside Special Development Area status,' said Mr. Grant in reply to a question.

Ball bearing industry

In answer to a question on recent discussions with the representatives of the British ball-bearing industry about the future of the industry in the UK, Mr. Grant said: 'I have had no formal discussion recently with representatives of the British ball and roller bearing industry on the future of that industry but relationships between my Department and the Trade Association for the industry are close and we are always ready to discuss with them any matters affecting its future.'

Sunderland

In reply to a question, Mr. Grant said that 5,651 men and 4,175 women were employed in Government-financed factories in Sunderland at September 1973.

Ship-repair industry

Mr. Grant told a Member who inquired about the report of the consultants investigating the ship-repair industry in Great Britain. 'I expect to receive the report within a very short time. The consultants have covered a wide field, and the report has taken longer than I had hoped.'

Marine surveys

Answering a question on representations received about the decision to delegate some of the Marine Surveyor's work to Lloyd's Register, Mr. Onslow said that letters from the Radio and Electronic Officers Union and the Mercantile Marine Service Association in July and a report from the British Seafarers Joint Council were received at the end of October. 'Comprehensive cost-effectiveness studies of safety agencies such as marine survey were difficult and long-term,' Mr. Onslow said in reply to another question. 'Papers on specific aspects will be published where appropriate as the studies progress: one on "The Cost of Ships' Time" is now being prepared for publication and a comparison of costs and benefits of lifeboats and life rafts was published in the January 1973 edition of *The Naval Architect*.' Answering a further question on marine surveys, Mr. Onslow said that a new scale of fees was at present under consideration. Full consultation would be undertaken before its introduction.

Mr. Onslow was asked to say what statutory controls govern Lloyd's Register; and what funds finance its operation. 'Lloyd's Register of Shipping is an unincorporated association,' he answered, 'the trustees of its assets being Lloyd's Register of Shipping Trust Corporation Ltd., which is subject to the Companies Acts. The Society's statutory marine survey functions under the Merchant Shipping Acts are subject to withdrawal by my Department. The Society's funds are derived world-wide almost entirely from fees.

Questions were asked in consultation with organisations and trade unions why the British Seafarers' Joint Council were not consulted during the framing of legislation dealing with the hiving off of some statutory marine surveys to Lloyd's Register. Mr. Onslow answered: 'The proposals to delegate further survey functions were formulated by professional officers of my Department and of Lloyd's Register of Shipping reporting to a Steering Committee on which these two bodies and the Chamber of Shipping were represented. Subsequently, before the legislation was drafted, the Institution of Professional Civil Servants and the following members of the British Seafarers' Joint Council were informed of the proposals.

The Mercantile Marine Service Association
Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundry Workers
Merchant Navy and Airline Officers' Association
Radio and Electronic Officers' Union
National Union of Seamen

Mr. Onslow was then asked why the Secretary of State had not proposed enacting the Rochdale Committee's Report on the establishment of a Statutory Marine Safety Authority; and if he would implement the recommendations of the Rochdale Inquiry into shipping that a Statutory Marine Safety Authority be established. Mr. Onslow said: 'As announced on March 8, 1972, it was decided that the balance of advantage lay against setting up a statutory Marine Authority, and that Ministers should continue to exercise direct responsibility to Parliament for the related questions of safety at sea and marine pollution, and for the establishment of appropriate international and national standards of ship construction, equipment and operation.'

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Consumer credit

A Member asked if the Secretary of State would issue a general direction to nationalised industries not to carry out random credit checks on customers by means of a debt collecting service, regardless of the customer's past record of payment, creditworthiness and general standing. 'This is a matter for the nationalised industries themselves,' answered Sir Geoffrey Howe. 'The Consumer Credit Bill before Parliament provides for the licensing and regulation of debt collecting and credit reference agencies.'

Public houses

Questioned about a recent meeting with the Brewers' Society, Sir Geoffrey Howe said that Mr. Emery met representatives of the Brewers' Society on October 4. They discussed a number of matters relating to the operation of the tied-house system, including the code of practice on tenants' security.

Lloyd's Register

Mr. Onslow was asked who were the members of the board controlling Lloyd's Register, to whom certain functions would be devolved; what interests they represented and whether trade unions were represented on the board. He replied that the membership of the General Committee of Lloyd's Register of Shipping, in whom the superintendence of the affairs of the Society was vested, was made up of nominees from the various aspects of the marine industry which it served. These included underwriters, shipowners, shipbuilders and others having specialised knowledge of the marine industrial environment. 'Since there are over 100 members, I am writing to the Hon. Member giving their names and the organisations which they represent,' Mr. Onslow said.

Boots and House of Fraser

The following information was given by Sir Geoffrey Howe to a Member who asked what companies and subsidiaries were involved in the proposed merger between Boots and House of Fraser.

The Boots Company Ltd.	House of Fraser Ltd.
Subsidiaries incorporated in Great Britain	Subsidiaries Registered in Scotland
Boots The Chemist Ltd.	House of Fraser (Northern Management) Ltd.
Boots Pure Drug Co. Ltd.	Arthur-Fraser Investments Ltd.
Boots International Ltd.	T Baird & Sons Ltd.
Boots Farm Sales Ltd.	Brown Smith & Co. Ltd.
Timothy Whites Ltd.	W. T. Dunbar & Sons Ltd.
Whites Property Co. Ltd.	Fras-Air Ltd.
The Crookes Laboratories Group Ltd.	Frasers (Glasgow) Bank Ltd.
Crookes Anestan Ltd.	Gordon & Watson Ltd.
Watts Brothers (Manchester) Ltd.	Hugh Lauder & Co. Ltd.
British Saccharin Sales Co. Ltd.	McKenzie & Millar Ltd.
	Retail & General Discounting Ltd.
Subsidiaries incorporated overseas	
Australia—The Boots Company (Australia) Pty Ltd.	Registered in England
France—Les Etablissements C David Rabot SA Laboratoires Dacour, SA	J. J. Allen and its wholly-owned subsidiaries
India—The Boots Company (India) Ltd.	Brights Hotel Ltd.
Italy—Boots-Formenti SpA	Chanelle Ltd.
Kenya—Kenya Overseas Co. Ltd.	Davis, Ridley & Co. Ltd.
New Zealand—Boots The Chemists (New Zealand) Ltd.	M. & I. Gay Ltd.
Nigeria—The Boots Company (Nigeria) Ltd.	Benjamin Simon & Sons Ltd.
Pakistan—The Boots Company (Pakistan) Ltd.	John Barker & Co. Ltd. and its wholly-owned subsidiary
Singapore—The Boots Company (Far East) Pte Ltd.	John Barker (Construction & Development) Ltd.
South Africa—The Boots Company (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd.	Binns Ltd. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries
	Binns (Grimsby) Ltd.
	Nithco Manufacturing Co. Ltd.
	E. Dingle & Co. Ltd. and its wholly-owned subsidiary
	New Elfordleigh Hotel Ltd.
	Hammond's Ltd. and its wholly-owned subsidiary
	Humber Properties Ltd.
	Harrods Ltd. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries
	Harrods Estate Offices
	Harrods (Insurance) Ltd.
	Harrods (Knightsbridge) Ltd.
	Harrods (London) Ltd.
	Harrods (Provincial) Ltd.
	Anne Gerrard Ltd.
	Wylie & Co. Ltd.
	James Howell & Co. Ltd. and its wholly-owned subsidiary
	Howell's (Chemists) Ltd.
	Army and Navy Stores Ltd. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries
	William Harvey of Guildford Ltd.
	Harveys of Camberley
	Army & Navy Stores (Bromley) Ltd.
	Genge & Company Ltd.
	Thomas White & Company Ltd.
	J. D. Morrant Ltd.
	Thomas Clarkson & Sons Ltd.
	Burgis & Colbourne Ltd.
	Artillery Mansions Ltd.
	Registered in Northern Ireland
	Robertson, Ledlie, Ferguson & Co. Ltd.

Sir Geoffrey was also asked, if, in his consideration of advice from the Director General of Fair Trading concerning the proposed merger of Boots with House of Fraser and Harrods, he would take account of (1) the extent of consultations held with the trade unions representing the employees of all the companies concerned, and (2) the effect on manufacturers of products

purchased by public funds, including the National Health Service. 'I shall take account of all the relevant factors', he answered.

Companies House

Asked why he selected Cardiff as a location for the proposed move of Companies House, as opposed to an alternative site in London or the Home Counties, Sir Geoffrey Howe said: 'There is no suitable building available either in London or in the Home Counties nor can the necessary staff be obtained there for the specialised bulk paper storage and handling requirements of the Companies Registration Office. Cardiff can satisfy both requirements. The principal public search facilities will remain at Companies House, and all new documents filed together with selected information more than three years old will be available there in microfiche or microfilm form for inspection.'

Gas and electricity prices

A Member asked if a publicity campaign could be mounted to inform tenants and landlords of the existence of statutory maximum resale prices for gas and electricity. 'Yes', said Mr. Emery. 'With the co-operation of Gas Consumer Councils and Electricity Consultative Councils publicity arrangements have now been completed and the campaign will begin on Thursday, November 15. Its aim is to publicise the fact that there are maximum prices for the resale of gas and electricity and to help anyone who thinks he is being overcharged. Explanatory leaflets will be freely available at gas and electricity showrooms, from Gas Consumer and Electricity Consultative Councils and from Citizens Advice Bureaux.'

Hartlepool

Mr. Grant was asked to make a statement on the report of the task force set up to consider the industrial problems in Hartlepool. 'Ministers are at present considering the report of the Hartlepool Task Force, together with those of the other Task Forces,' he said. 'Announcements about further Government action will be made shortly.'

Commodity prices

Taking 1960 as the base year, Sir Geoffrey Howe was asked to give an index to the price rises in commodities imported from abroad for each succeeding year to the latest date for which figures were available and to compare the rise in commodity prices with the advance in prices for manufactured goods exported abroad. Sir Geoffrey said: 'The information is not calculated in this form but unit value index numbers based on the year 1961 are given on page 559 of the September 13 issue of *Trade and Industry*. Revised figures based on 1970 have been published, for 1963 onwards in *Trade and Industry* of October 11.'

Export of live cattle and sheep

Asked how many licences for the export of live cattle and sheep for slaughter were still in operation, Sir Geoffrey Howe said: 'So far as the Department of Trade and Industry are at present aware, there are nine unexpired licences for cattle and none for sheep'.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Trade with EEC

A statement was requested on the United Kingdom's exports and imports with the EEC taking the latest available three month figures and comparing those with the previous three months. Sir Geoffrey Howe said that for the three months August to October, exports to the EEC (seasonally adjusted) were 9 per cent higher than in the previous three months, compared with 7 per cent to the rest of the world. For imports, the corresponding figures were 11 per cent and 12 per cent respectively.

Terotechnology

Answering questions about the development of terotechnology, Mr. Grant said: 'The policy is to promote a greater awareness of this important subject in industry, in the professional institutions and in the educational field generally. No precise estimate of potential savings can be formulated but it is estimated that the adoption of better maintenance engineering practices (which is but one aspect of terotechnology), could save manufacturing industry alone up to £550 million per annum. My Department has the advice of the Committee for Terotechnology and many activities have been undertaken and are planned with the aim of widening industry's understanding of the subject and or creating a greater awareness of its significance. The Department attaches great importance to industry's own views and to this end it held a Terotechnology forum on November 6 attended by some 200 representatives from leading industrial and commercial organisations. The exchange of views proved most valuable and will greatly assist in guiding the Department's future steps.'

Patents system

Sir Geoffrey Howe was questioned about HMG policy in regard to the discussions on the future of the patents system; and if, before agreement was reached with EEC countries, he would lay information before Parliament. Sir Geoffrey said: 'I intend to publish a consultative paper setting out the Government's proposals for new patent legislation and the future of the British patent system. This paper will explain the Government's present intentions in relation to the European Patent Convention which the UK has signed, and the Community Patent Convention which will be concluded in May 1974.'

Companies House

A Member who asked for an estimate of the cost of copying the files in Companies House on microfilm; and how long the work would take, was told by Sir Geoffrey Howe that the microfilming of these records had been planned for some time as a measure to improve the service to the public, independently of the decision to transfer work to Cardiff. The work began in October 1973; it was estimated to cost £800,000; and it would take about two years to complete.

Nuclear power plants

Mr. Emery was asked to give the power output to the national grid scheduled to be delivered from nuclear power plants this year and in each of the succeeding four years, listing the power stations and types of reactor involved. He said that the output of the existing nuclear power plants at March 31 was as follows:

Station	Maximum Output Capacity MW s.o.	Type of Reactor	Operator
Bradwell	250	Magnox	CEGB
Dungeness A	410	Magnox	CEGB
Sizewell A	420	Magnox	CEGB
Hinkley Point A	460	Magnox	CEGB
Oldbury on Severn	400	Magnox	CEGB
Berkeley	276	Magnox	CEGB
Trawsfynydd	390	Magnox	CEGB
Wylfa	840	Magnox	CEGB
Hunterston A	300	Magnox	SSEB
Chapelcross	198	Magnox	BNFL
Calder Hall	198	Magnox	BNFL
Windscale	34	AGR	UKAEA
Winfrith	100	SGHWR	UKAEA
Dounreay Experimental Reactor	14	Fast Breeder	UKAEA

Mr. Emery continued: 'No further nuclear plant is scheduled to come into service this year. I am asking the Chairman of the CEGB to send the Hon. Member such information as may be available about planned nuclear capacity over the succeeding four years. My Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Scotland will also ask the Chairman of the SSEB to write to the Hon. Member. I am advised by the UKAEA that the 250 MW Prototype Fast Reactor at Dounreay should start to generate electricity next year.'

Asked to give an assurance that there would would be no relaxation in the safety standards applicable to the use of light water nuclear reactors in order to make it possible for them to be used in the United Kingdom, Mr. Emery said: 'Yes.'

Shipbuilding for foreign owners

Mr. Grant was asked for which foreign governments British shipbuilders were prohibited from building. He answered that licences were required for the construction of all ships for foreign owners. They were issued freely for all merchant vessels but applications to construct warships and other vessels which might have a naval capability were considered individually on their merits.

EEC prices

A Member who asked Sir Geoffrey Howe if he had any proposals to put to the EEC for a reduction of price levels was told that at a meeting of the Community's Council of Finance Ministers on November 9, the Commission were asked to suggest counter-inflationary measures for further consideration next month. The Government was participating fully in this Community effort.

EEC budget proposals for coal and steel

A Member asked for a statement on the EEC budget proposals for coal and steel, the effect of the conversion of Great Britain's contribution to units of account taking the devaluation of the pound sterling into account, and, expressed in the currencies of the member countries, the percentage increase of contributions to the budget. Mr. Emery answered: 'The operation of the ECSC is financed by means of levies on the coal and steel industries of Member States, and separately from the main budget of the European Communities. The Commission has proposed a changed method for calculating conversion rates between the ECSC unit of account and national currencies when determining levy contributions; these proposals are still under consideration.'

Consumer protection in Scotland

In reply to a question on the extension of consumer protection in Scotland, Sir Geoffrey Howe said: 'I am planning soon to meet the representatives of Scottish local authorities to discuss the possibility of establishing additional consumer advisory centres in Scotland. More generally, it is the aim both of my Rt. Hon. friend the Secretary of State for Scotland and myself to ensure that the Scottish consumer has the same degree of protection as the consumer elsewhere in the United Kingdom.'

Pergamon Press

A Member asked Sir Geoffrey Howe if he had considered the representations made to him about the final report of the inspectors appointed to inquire into the affairs of Pergamon Press Ltd.; and whether he would now publish it. 'I have considered these representations and have decided that the public interest requires the Report to be published,' Sir Geoffrey answered. 'I expect to publish through HMSO on November 20, the earliest date practicable.'

(*continued on next page*)

PARLIAMENT
continued

Imports of fish meal

The following information was given to a Member who asked what were the totals by weight and value of all fish-meal imported into the UK for the past six years to the nearest convenient date.

United Kingdom Imports of fish meal and flour

	Thousand metric tons	£ million
1967	400	22.7
1968	499	29.2
1969	467	32.0
1970	368	31.6
1971	301	25.5
1972	359	30.5
Jan. to Sept. 1973	221	41.2

Concorde

Answering a question on the passenger/mile fuel consumption of the Concorde relative to that of the current range of subsonic jet aircraft; and the expected impact on sales of Concorde of recent increase in fuel prices, Mr. Onslow said that Concorde's estimated fuel consumption per seat-mile was 0.45 lb. compared with 0.15-0.25 lb. for current subsonic civil jet aircraft. 'The manufacturers do not consider that the recent fuel price increases will have any material effect on Concorde sales,' he added.

Mr. Onslow was also questioned about a report regarding the recent tour of the United States by Concorde; He said, 'Between September 18 and 26 Concorde visited Caracas, the new Dallas/Fort Worth Airport, and Washington. Concorde was received enthusiastically by the public and airport authorities concerned, and leading members of the US Administration expressed their favourable impression of the aircraft's environmental acceptability. The return flight from Washington to Paris in three hours 33 minutes demonstrated the time-saving that Concorde will offer to the public. I am sure the House will join me in extending my congratulations to all those who contributed to this successful and historic visit.'

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Newsprint

Mr. Grant was asked for an assessment of the future supply of newsprint in relation to future needs of the newspaper industry; and if steps would be taken to encourage the collection of waste paper by local authorities and other means in order to increase available stocks. He replied: 'I understand that the arrangements which have been made by the newspaper industry to ensure that newspapers receive essential supplies of newsprint are working satisfactorily and I have no reason at present to think that they will not continue to do so. However we shall keep the position under review in the light of continuing discussions with the newsprint producers and the newspaper publishers. Local authorities are already encouraged to collect wastepaper if they consider it worthwhile to do so.'

Middle East oil

A Member asked Mr. Emery to state for each year since the negotiation of the Teheran and Tripoli agreements the percentage rise in oil prices by Middle East states, in US cents per barrel, the take of host governments compared with 1961 and the estimated revenue to be received by the leading Middle East governments following the latest increases in prices. Mr. Emery gave the following table setting out posted prices of some Middle East crude oils since the Teheran and Tripoli agreements:

$ per barrel

	March 1971	March 1972	% change	March 1973	% change on a year earlier	October 1973	% change since March 1973
Arabian light	2.180	2.479	+14	2.591	+ 5	5.119	+ 98
Iran light	2.170	2.467	+14	2.579	+ 5	5.091	+ 98
Kuwait	2.085	2.373	+14	2.482	+ 5	4.903	+ 98
Abu Dhabi, Murban	2.235	2.540	+14	2.654	+ 5	6.045	+128
Iraq, Basrah	2.155	2.451	+14	2.562	+ 5	5.061	+ 98
Qatar, Dukhan	2.280	2.590	+14	2.705	+ 5	5.834	+115
Libyan	3.447	3.673	+ 7	4.024	+10	8.925	+118

Figures for host government take in 1961, now and immediately prior to the recent increases are shown in the following table:

US cents per barrel

	Government take		
	1961	October 1, 1973	October 16, 1973
Saudi Arabia	76	177	305
Iran	76	175	302
Kuwait	74	171	294
Abu Dhabi	—	182	358
Iraq	77	174	300
Qatar	87	181	315
Libya	63	283	545

The revenue that will be received by Middle East governments will be dependent upon a number of factors including the levels of production and sales to all markets.

Unit pricing

Sir Geoffrey Howe said, in reply to a question, that he intended to introduce a Bill on unit pricing as soon as possible.

Industrial Reorganisation Corporation

In answer to a request for a further statement about the position of the investments transferred to him from the Industrial Reorganisation Corporation. Mr. Chataway said: 'The list of holdings as at October 1, 1973 is given below. A separate heading shows the investments disposed of during the period since April 1, 1973. No advances against outstanding commitments were made during this period.'

INDUSTRIAL REORGANISATION CORPORATION INVESTMENTS TRANSFERRED TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY. HOLDING AT OCTOBER 1, 1973

LOANS	
British Leyland Motor Corporation Limited	£10,000,000 Unsecured Loan
Clarke Chapman-John Thompson Limited	£ 3,000,000 Unsecured Loan
Marwin (Holdings) Limited	£ 250,000 Unsecured Loan
Nuclear Enterprises Limited	£ 500,000 Unsecured Loan
Samuel-Osborn and Company Limited	£ 1,750,000 Secured Loan
EQUITY AND PREFERENCE SHARES	COST
British Nuclear Design and Construction Limited	
260,000 Ordinary Shares of £1	£ 260,000
Brown Bayley Limited	
2,400,000 Ordinary Shares of £1	See Note (1)
George Kent Limited	
3,017,577 Ordinary Shares of 50p	
1,244,180 Deferred Ordinary Shares of 50p	£6,504,861
Kearney and Trecker Marwin Limited	
300,000 Redeemable Convertible Third Preference Shares of £1	£ 300,000 See Note (2)
Nuclear Enterprises Limited	
7,353 'B' Ordinary Shares of £1	£ 100,000

Note:
(1) The following investment is held by Brown Bayley Limited: Brown Bayley Steels Limited 2,404,000 Shares of 50p £1,470,453.
(2) Previously Kearney and Trecker Limited.

CHANGES DURING THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 1973 to SEPTEMBER 30, 1973. INVESTMENTS DISPOSED OF

LOANS	
Clarke Chapman-John Thompson Limited	£ 500,000 Unsecured Loan (Part)
Herbert Ingersoll Limited (In Receivership)	£ 237,500 Unsecured Loan (Part)
Marwin (Holdings) Limited	£ 500,000 Unsecured Loan (Part)
LOANS CONVERTIBLE INTO EQUITY	
Marwin (Holdings) Limited	£ 750,000 8% Convertible Loan
Rolls-Royce Limited (In Liquidation)	£8,500,000 Unsecured Convertible Loan (Part)
EQUITY AND PREFERENCE SHARES	COST
Herbert Ingersoll Limited (In Receivership)	
36,750 'B' Ordinary Shares of £1	£ 257,250

Regional development grants

Mr. Grant was asked if regional development grants were payable in respect of the following items, and at what rate; new industrial buildings, new agricultural and forestry buildings and works, new ships, new mining works, new scientific research assets, new fuel saving plant, other new plant and machinery, dredging and second-hand plant. He answered that under Part I of the Industry Act 1972, eligibility depended on the circumstances as well as on the nature of the assets.

Mr. Grant continued: 'Grant may be made on new buildings and works on qualifying premises in a development area, an intermediate area, or in the case of assets provided before March 22, 1974, a derelict land clearance area. Qualifying premises are those used wholly or mainly for qualifying activities as defined in the Act, principally manufacturing, mining and construction and including scientific research relating to other qualifying activities. Since agriculture and forestry are not qualifying activities, agricultural and forestry buildings and works do not qualify for grant unless they form part of larger premises in the same occupation used mainly for some other, qualifying, activity.

'New mining works in development areas are eligible for grant whether they are provided on qualifying premises or not.

'New plant and machinery is eligible for grant when provided for use in development areas either in qualifying premises or in activities described in Order XX of the Standard Industrial Classification (ie construction activities). Whether a grant may be paid on particular items such as

dredging and fuel saving plant or scientific research assets depends on whether they have been provided for use in qualifying premises or construction activities in the development areas.

'Previously used plant is ineligible and, in general, so are ships.

'The rate of grant is 20 per cent of the approved capital expenditure, except in the special development areas where the rate is 22 per cent for assets on qualifying premises and for mining works.

'There is a general rule that grants are not payable in respect of items of plant or machinery and mining works costing less than £100 each or in respect of buildings and works (other than mining works) costing less than £1,000.'

Animal oil imports

Mr. Emery was asked what would be the cost to the UK of animal oil imports, assuming the 1972 level of imports of crude oil at a market cost of 40 per cent below posted prices, where posted prices in the Persian Gulf approximated $5.00 BBL, in the Eastern Mediterranean $7.00 BBL, Libyan 40.0-40.09° API $8.925 BBL and Nigerian 34.0-34.09° API $8.30 BBL; and how this cost compared with the position on January 1, 1973. Mr. Emery said that on the basis of the price assumptions quoted, the annual cost of crude and process oils imported into the UK from the areas specified would have been of the order of £1,000 million using 1972 quantities. The actual value of such imports in 1972 from these sources was £833 million. 'These sums do not of course represent the total cost of our oil imports,' he said.

Trade with EEC

In answer to a question on Great Britain's adverse trade balance, expressed in percentage terms, with the EEC and the rest of the world, respectively, in the first 10 months of 1973, Sir Geoffrey Howe said: 'Estimates of visible trade on a balance of payments basis for part-years are compiled only for total trade and not for individual areas; but consideration is being given to their compilation in respect of trade with the Communities.'

Consumer goods

The following information was given by Mr. Grant when asked to state the total sales of colour television sets, radios, motorcars, audio systems, washing machines, refrigerators, cookers and vacuum cleaners, respectively, since June 1970 to the latest available date.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Nuclear power

A Member inquired the cost of generating a unit of electricity in nuclear power stations using magnox, AGR and water systems. Mr. Emery replied: 'The generating costs of the existing Magnox stations reflect the capital costs of those stations at the time they were built. The capital cost of a similar station today would be very much higher. No commercial AGR or water reactor has yet operated in this country. The probable generating costs of new stations using these types of reactor are being examined by the Nuclear Power Advisory Board as part of their work on reactor choice.' Referring to energy difficulties, a Member asked if authorisation would be given for immediate orders for both HTR (Dragon) and SGHWR nuclear reactors, following their successful developments. 'It is the Government's policy to intensify the installation of nuclear plants' answered Mr. Emery, 'and we intend to reach a decision as soon as possible about the choice of the next thermal reactor system. The CEGB are actively considering a programme of early nuclear orders.'

Moroccan phosphates

Mr. Grant was asked to quote the cost of Moroccan phosphates on January 1, 1973, the current price per ton following the recent price increases, and the reasons advanced for the substantial increase in prices. He said: 'The list price at 1.1.73 for 72-73 BPL rock was $12 per metric ton and from 1.1.74 is to be $40. In announcing these increases to customers the Moroccan supplier has referred to the need to bring prices back in real terms to the levels obtaining in the past; to increases in crop values and in the export prices of fertilisers; to losses sustained by the producing company in recent years; and to the need for very substantial investment to increase production to meet the present shortage.'

Anglo-Germany Foundation

A Member who asked when the Royal Charter of the Anglo-Germany Foundation for the study of the problems of industrial society was granted; and what was the reason for the delay, was told by Sir Geoffrey Howe: 'The draft Charter was approved by Her Majesty in Council on October 24, and the Royal Charter will be granted shortly. The drafting of a Royal Charter for a body of charitable status is difficult and time-consuming; in this case, it has been further complicated by the need to keep the Federal German Government fully informed and consulted.'

Aerospace exports

Figures showing the total value of aerospace exports for the first six months of 1973 as compared with the similar period for last year in categories of aircraft, engines, parts and accessories, etc., for each period, were given by Mr. Onslow.

	January to June 1972 £ million fob	January to June 1973 £ million fob
Aircraft (excluding second-hand aircraft)	20.7	39.9
Engines	59.0	57.1
Parts of aircraft and engines	102.9	130.3
Guided missiles	7.6	5.0
TOTAL	190.2	232.2

Trade with EEC

In answer to a question on the percentage of Great Britain's imports and exports, respectively, related to trade with the EEC and the rest of the world in the first 10 months of 1973, Sir Geoffrey Howe said: 'For imports, 33 per cent from EEC and 67 per cent for rest of world; for exports 32 per cent and 68 per cent, respectively.'

Electricity supplies

Would powers be sought, a Member inquired, to ensure that adequate supplies of electricity were allocated to industry and essential services, without interruptions through rota cuts, by ordering the reduction of consumption for less essential purposes. Mr. Emery answered: 'Orders have been made under the Emergency Regulations with effect from November 15 prohibiting the use of electricity for advertising or display purposes and for space heating in non-domestic premises. Although this will reduce the load in the supply system there can be no guarantee that rota cuts may not be necessary if the situation deteriorates. If it should, it will not be possible because of the current EPEA dispute to ensure, except in a very small number of cases, that any consumers will receive uninterrupted supplies.'

Answering questions on electricity consumption by lighting of motorways, streets and other public external illuminations, flood-lighting, display lighting, and on retail and other commercial premises and by television receivers, Mr. Emery said of the units sold by Electricity Boards in England and Wales in 1972, the following proportions are estimated to have been consumed by these classes:

Public lighting	Less than 1 per cent
Flood-lighting, advertising and window display lighting	About 1 per cent
TV receivers	About 1½ per cent
Commercial use other than flood and display lighting (including public buildings, HM Forces and premises with combined domestic/commercial tariffs)	16 per cent

Crude oil prices

Taking 1960 as the base year, a Member asked for an index to price rises in crude oil imported into the UK from the Middle East and North Africa, and for a comparison of the rise in crude oil prices with the advance in prices of manufactured goods exported to the Middle East and North Africa. Mr. Emery said: 'Using 1960 as the base year, an index number of the average value per ton of crude and process oils imported into the UK from Middle East and North Africa is 122 for the year 1972. A price index for exports of manufactured goods by area is not available.'

SALES BY NUMBER OF CERTAIN CONSUMER DURABLES TO UK HOME MARKET (a)

Thousands

	Colour television sets	Radios (b)	Audio systems (record players and radiograms)	Washing machines	Refrigerators (c)	Cookers (c)	Vacuum cleaners	Cars (d)
Source	(1)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(3)	(3)	(5)
1970 Year	504	3,254	871	750	1,072	747	1,331	1,127
1971 Year	922	4,898	884	888	1,068	811	1,437	1,335
1972 Year	1,780	6,369	1,071	1,232	1,079	782	1,726	1,702
1970 2nd half	308	1,998	525	386	422	399	681	512
1971 1st half	309	2,264	343	388	616	420	585	643
2nd half	612	2,635	541	500	450	391	852	692
1972 1st half	762	2,810	385	581	633	378	831	893
2nd half	1,018	3,558	686	651	446	404	895	809
1973 1st half	1,323	2,793	535	736	730	460	982	931
3rd quarter	678	1,938	..	..	..	..	..	448

(a) Sales include both home manufactured and imported products as estimated from the following sources: (1) British Radio Equipment Manufacturers' Association. (2) Business Monitor series and Overseas Trade Statistics. (3) Association of Manufacturers of Domestic Electric Appliances. (4) Domestic Refrigeration Development Committee. (5) Department of the Environment.
(b) Excludes car radios.
(c) Electric only.
(d) New registrations.

Opportunities for British metrology and tooling equipment in Japan

OPPORTUNITIES for sales of British metrology and tooling equipment in Japan are pinpointed in a report published by the British Overseas Trade Board. The report *The Japanese Market for Metrology and Tooling Equipment* states that 'The Japanese consider the British engineering capability, and hence precision-made products which derive from that capability, to be of the highest order, and hold it in high esteem.'

The report emphasises the need for quality. 'For mechanical gauging devices and tools, quality is often the determining factor in selection of a specific brand. Foreign-made tools and gauges are held in high esteem and are usually presumed to be of higher quality than domestic products.'

The best immediate and future market opportunities open to UK manufacturers lie in electronic measuring equipment—especially that which combines high accuracy and automated operation. The report states that 'Japanese labour costs are rising annually at a rate of almost 20 per cent, and many test and measurement operations now done manually must be automated in the future'.

After-service capability is an essential element in building a successful position in the Japanese metrology market. The report comments that 'Many Japanese buyers would prefer to purchase foreign-made equipment, especially in the more sophisticated areas However, the general lack of qualified, prompt repair service associated with imported equipment has often forced such buyers to depend upon domestic sources'.

Referring to the significant opportunities for UK manufacturers in licensing technology, forming joint ventures with Japanese partners, or selling via a sales agreement with a competent representative, the report stresses: 'These opportunities can be turned into profitable business only by dedicated effort on the part of the UK side'.

The report provides detailed and comprehensive answers to three key questions:

(1) What kinds of equipment within the overall Japanese measuring equipment industry are most likely to be supplied from non-Japanese sources?

(2) What are the growth rates for these kinds of equipment, and what will be the impact of future Japanese domestic competition on sales enjoyed now by non-Japanese sources?

(3) In particular, what product areas represent the best opportunities for UK manufacturers desiring to sell in the Japanese market through exports from the UK?

The report also covers tariffs, standards, distribution, pricing and advice on how to enter the Japanese market. Names and addresses of Japanese firms engaged in the metrology market are given.

The Japanese Market for Metrology and Tooling Equipment was prepared for the BOTB by Nichibei Technical Consultants Ltd. Tokyo, Japan.

Included in the appendices is a reprint of a market report on Gauges and Tools in Japan prepared by the British Embassy in Tokyo in 1970.

The Report, price £5 post free, is available from the DTI Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

BRU Export Finance Service

The BRU Export Finance Service provides accurate, up-to-date information on the terms at which exports are insured and financed in the United Kingdom, the United States, Western Germany, France, Italy and Japan.

This service, first introduced last December, by The Banker Research Unit in collaboration with Mr. Richard Fry has proved very successful in meeting the information requirements of both bankers and exporters throughout the world.

The subscription lists are now open again for the new year. for further details please write to or telephone:

THE BANKER RESEARCH UNIT,
Bracken House, 10 Cannon St, London EC4P 4BY.
Tel: 01-248 8000 Ext. 7168.

New report on Japanese Ministry for International Trade and Industry

A NEW report on the function and structure of the Japanese Ministry for International Trade and Industry (MITI) has been prepared in London, from material supplied by the Office of the Scientific Counsellor and the Economic Department at the British Embassy in Tokyo, to assist United Kingdom industry and research organisations.

The document, one of a series of Department of Trade and Industry reports known as 'Science Abroad', notes that MITI has undergone a major reorganisation for the first time in its 21-year history: the new structure reflects the change from pure economic growth and expanding trade to consideration of environmental factors, including location of industry; energy looms large; new appointments in the Science and Technology and Environment Agencies are also given.

'The Ministry for International Trade and Industry has been reorganised "to meet the needs of the new age",' states the report. 'There was at the same time a reallocation of posts among the senior officials, a common occurrence at this time of the year. Under the reorganisation, the number of bureaux has been reduced to seven and a new Resources and Energy Agency established.

'The framework of MITI's organisation has been virtually unchanged since the ministry was established in 1952. During 21 years, its efforts were directed towards the development of Japanese industry and overseas trade. But recent emphasis on the quality of life, environmental control and the development of the Japanese archipelago will lead to a new industrial structure in Japan. This is the thinking behind the MITI reorganisation.'

Copies of the eight-page report are obtainable free, on application on official letterheads, from: Overseas Technical Information Unit, Department of Trade and Industry, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN; (tel 01-834 4422, ext. 302 or 601).

Princess Margaret, with Lord Thorneycroft, BOTB Chairman, and Herr Oberburgermeister Georg Kronawetter, leaves Munich's Alte Rathaus after opening the British Trade Week.

Munich Shopping Week achieves great success

From Peter Bryant, Director, Office of the British Trade Drive in South Germany: Union Jacks are no longer flying in the centre of Munich, the skirl of the pipes of the Edinburgh City Police Pipe Band are no more to be heard and the last opportunity to have a free tour of the city in a London or Edinburgh double-decker bus has gone. But these and many other features of the British Shopping Week in Munich, which ended November 10, will stay in the minds of the people of Munich for many a day. Above all, British consumer goods, highlighted in 200 shops during the week, have been brought to the forefront of customers' attention: spot checks on sales results during the week itself indicate that the demand for them is likely to remain enhanced. In all respects, this British Shopping Week, the largest in Europe for several years, was a great success. It was organised within the framework of the British Trade Drive in South Germany and follows a similar event in Stuttgart in autumn 1972.

The week got off to a marvellous start with the visit to Munich of HRH The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon. The Princess opened the Week and then carried out a full two-day programme of visits to various events and to 15 of the leading shops taking part. The Princess was everywhere given a great and friendly welcome by the large crowds who were in the city especially for the occasion.

Lord Thorneycroft, Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, accompanied by Lady Thorneycroft, visited Munich on the first day. He was host at the opening ceremony and the reception which followed, at which about 400 of the leading citizens in Munich's life were present. Lord Thorneycroft also acted as host at a lunch in honour of Princess Margaret, at which 90 guests were present, including the heads of all the important shops taking part in the shopping week.

Because of the strong twinning arrangements between Munich and Edinburgh, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, accompanied by the Lady Provost, visited Munich for the first part of the Shopping Week as guest of the city and took part in many of the functions.

The 22-man strong Edinburgh city police Pipe Band was one of the main attractions designed to draw the public into the target area during the week. There was never a seat to spare on either of the two double-decker buses which gave free rides of about 30 minutes round the centre of the city. It is estimated that in all about 15 thousand people rode on the buses.

The public was further attracted into the shopping area by a major exhibition at the city museum: 'The Two Elizabeths' which contrasted modern Britain with England of the second half of the 16th century. The exhibition provided excellent publicity opportunities for the Shopping Week. It attracted 40,000 visitors.

Attracting the public

A simple competition helped to focus the public's attention on the shop windows full of British goods and also to get customers into the shops. Numbered photographs of 10 well-known buildings in London were placed in shop windows and members of the public had to identify them and fill in the appropriate number against names listed in the official programme of the week. They put their entry forms into special boxes inside the shops. There were about 23,000 entries for this competition, for which over 150 prizes had been donated by German representatives of British companies and organisations. Top prize was a British Leyland Morris Marina 1300 coupe and the next three prizes trips to London, sponsored by the British Tourist Authority, in association with British Airways and British Rail among others. The draw for the first 25 prizes was held in public on the city's main square and provided an impressive closing event of the Week. The Oberbürgermeister of Munich, assisted by Mr. J. S. Rooke, Chief Executive of the British Overseas Trade Board and other British officials and local dignitaries, took part.

All these attractions but especially the visit of Princess Margaret brought many more people than usual into the city centre and many shops report very satisfactory results for British goods during the week. They put an impressive selection of British goods on show and had plenty in reserve to back up their high-standard window displays. They had spent about a million pounds in buying additional quantities of British goods specially for the week. British clothing and clothing made up in Germany from British cloth were strongly in evidence and several leading clothing stores reported excellent results. For example, one which had spent about £40,000 on buying British clothing for the first time, sold all the Harris Tweed sports coats bought and a large proportion of its British ladies' knitwear. It will now consolidate this good start. Another clothing shop catering for the top end of the market, which is always well-stocked with British goods, increased its sales of them by 30 per cent. British food and drink, particularly confectionery and Scotch whisky, did well. The leading delicatessen shop, which has over 300 British articles, reported that sales of British goods trebled during the week. British furniture and fine china also sold especially well.

The big department stores, obviously the main buyers of British goods, were all very pleased with their results in the week. One store, which had already spent £160,000 on additional purchases of British goods, was so pleased with the first few days' results that it immediately sent buyers back to Britain, their purchases for next spring are likely to amount to another £80,000. Another store whose goods are at the lower end of the price scale and which did not have many British goods until it purchased about £40,000 worth for the week, was astonished at the sales achieved and will now build on this promising beginning with potential for sales spreading throughout this national chain.

An encouraging number of agents of British manufacturers were very active during the week and had organised special displays or stands in particular shops. Several other firms and organisations grasped the opportunity provided by the Shopping Week to organise special events for their own products outside the shops.

The local dealers in British Leyland cars together with the main importer in Germany organised an impressive show of more than 20 different models: this was the first time that the whole range of British Leyland cars on sale in Germany had been put on show in one place in Munich. The dealers were very satisfied with the interest shown and with the number of serious inquiries made. Reid and Taylor Ltd., Langholm, held two fashion shows featuring wool cloth for the tailoring and retail trades, which were attended respectively by Lady Henderson, wife of HM Ambassador in Bonn and by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh and the Lady Provost. The British Tourist Authority, in association with several British hotel groups, British Airways and British Rail held a reception for tour operators and the travel press in Munich. The BTA also organised a special counter for British tourism at the main Bavarian Travel Bureau on the central railway station in Munich. The Scotch Whisky Association co-operated with a department store in organising a whisky tasting evening, attended by many of the store's customers.

After the success of the Week, there is no doubt that Britain, as represented by British consumer goods, has the opportunity to stay in Munich. Although many British goods were already on sale in Munich, the week has focused attention on them and has also enabled many stores to test the market for what are to them new British lines—with successful results. In the longer term, the availability of British goods in the Munich shops can now confidently be expected to increase.

Meeting growing needs of youngsters at International Fair for the Child

From R. A. Tempest, Commercial Dept., British Embassy, Bonn: The autumn International Fair for the Child took place in Cologne, October 12-14. Once again halls 12 and 13 were given over to the evermore-sophisticated requirements of children. The range and variety of products at the fair has probably never been exceeded and trade visitors were able to inform themselves about all that is available on the international market.

Among 436 exhibitors from 19 countries were 18 British firms, all except one participating in the joint venture organised by the National Children's Wear Association and the British Overseas Trade Board. The majority of British exhibitors were children's clothing manufacturers.

Although the recorded number of trade visitors to the fair matched the 9,400 attending last year, the British children's wear manufacturers were generally disappointed at the level of interest shown by buyers. The British, however, were not alone in their disappointment in the clothing sector, as many other foreign exhibitors and German manufacturers had the same experience. The reason for the reluctance of buyers to place orders has generally been attributed to the fact that the retail trade as a whole in the Federal Republic is feeling the effects of the anti-inflation measures undertaken by the Government. Stocks are said to be high and the financing of these and additional purchases for next season is proving too expensive at the present high inflation rates. Regrettable, also, for the British exhibitors was the understandable absence of Near East buyers among the 2,800 foreign visitors to the fair, as British exhibitors in particular generally do good business with these customers.

Those firms exhibiting nursery goods and prams had a very different report to make. All reported receiving good inquiries, from EEC and Third Countries, some of which could involve very large contracts. Exhibitors in this section showed a wide variety of products, ranging from safety straps and pram sacks through to plastic nursery equipment and soft toys. All were agreed that, but for their attendance at the fair, they would not have made the solid contacts which they were able to record. The pram section, too, proved a winner for the two British firms participating, one exhibiting a push chair which is now known throughout the world and the other exhibiting prams in the luxury class.

The disappointment of children's clothing manufacturers, generally, led to an appeal from many sections of the industry to the Government, through the medium of the closing press conference, to release the brakes on the economy. On the other hand there is no doubt in anybody's mind that the present situation is only of a temporary nature. The fact is that, although the birthrate in the Federal Republic of Germany continues to decrease, total expenditure on children's clothing and nursery articles continues to increase this should present good opportunities for those British manufacturers interested in the Federal Republic as a long-term market.

At Atlantic City Packaging Show, exhibitor Mr. B. Newman answers inquiries from two American visitors. A joint venture at last month's event was sponsored by the Institute of Packaging and supported by the British Overseas Trade Board.

Paris, provinces: Printemps promotion proves profitable

From M. Dougal, First Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, Paris: The Au Printemps department store group held a British Promotion this autumn for the second year running. The month-long event ran until October 26 and 23 of its stores throughout France participated. Purchases of British goods for the promotion totalled nearly £500,000 of which half was for the main Boulevard Haussman store in Paris.

The promotion was opened by Mr. P. H. Laurence MC, Counsellor (Commercial) at the British Embassy in Paris. He was welcomed at the Paris store by Monsieur Galitzine, Directeur Generale, and Monsieur Gourbaud, Directeur d'Achats. (*They are pictured below, with the writer of this report on the promotion*).

Au Printemps decided in November 1972 that—given the success of the general promotion of British goods then just finished and its belief that the fashion in Autumn 1973 would be for classically elegant British woollen goods, cloth and tailoring—it would have a further British event this time concentrating on textiles.

The group ordered large quantities of knitwear and also kilts, mod dresses, duffle coats, raincoats, men's suits, blankets, ties, bowler hats. In addition, the Paris store had, during the promotion, a large food counter, selling everything from boiled sweets to haggis; an antiques stall; two Biba make-up boutiques; and a display of eight British Leyland cars (Minis and Marinas), all of which were raffled during the promotion.

The promotion itself was heavily advertised in French newspapers, magazines and radio. In Paris, eight Scottish pipers, and another two at the Bourges store, drew large crowds. The first two days of the promotion were the best sales days Au Printemps, Paris, had ever recorded but later stages were adversely affected by a rail strike. Nevertheless, the management was satisfied with the results and a number of British firms had their goods on sale in this, the second largest French department store chain, for the first time. It is to be hoped that they will follow up this introduction.

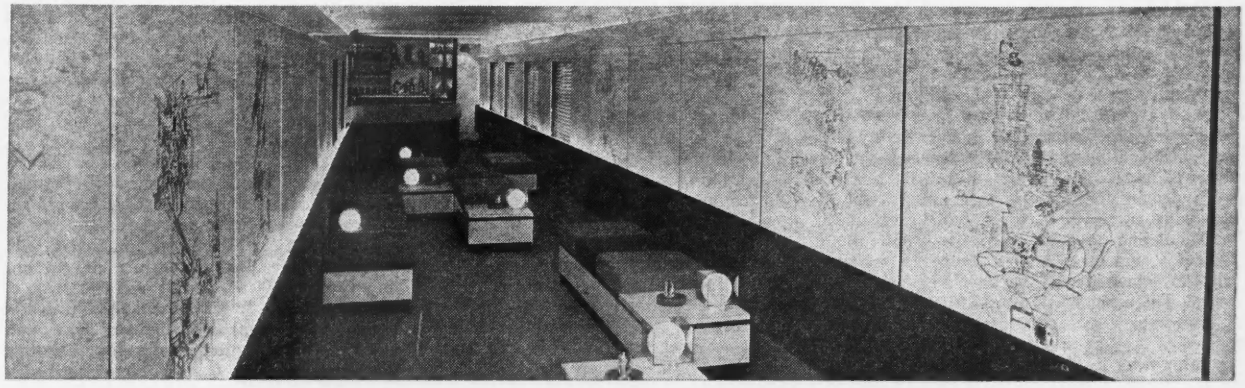
British Rail's TrainEx exhibition coaches set for Europe

BRITISH RAIL has set up a new company—TrainEx—to develop exhibition train facilities throughout Europe. Formed by an amalgam of several organisations already active in the field in the UK, and now with official BRB sponsorship, TrainEx will provide a complete service for the design, construction, promotion and operation of exhibition trains throughout the UK and Europe.

The new company has a total of 34 exhibition coaches in its fleet, some of which are specially equipped as conference, hospitality, cinema and reception cars. (*Club car is pictured below*) An innovation is a 'superloo' toilet coach designed for use by visitors when an exhibition train is stationary at its various venues. Twelve of the vehicles in the exhibition fleet have been modified and equipped for the Continental rail system. Some 57 centres are so far available throughout Western Europe.

Five coaches of the Continental fleet are currently on an extended Eastern European tour for Rank Xerox Ltd. The train has already exhibited in Italy, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, and has recently begun a second tour of Hungary.

Talks are in progress with French Railways (SNCF) to provide British Rail with extensive new facilities to enable TrainEx to promote exhibitions throughout Western Europe. Provision has been made in planning rolling stock to meet the varying requirements of exhibiting companies who may wish to use the comprehensive design and other services now available; for example, many of the exhibition vehicles have reinforced floors to take heavy plant, and open flat vehicles will be available for larger equipment.



Envoys visit UK pavilion at Copenhagen food fair

From Mrs. Margaret Maxwell, Commercial Dept., British Embassy, Copenhagen: 'Velkommen til Danmark og København' was the theme of the speeches at the opening ceremony of Food Fair 73, opened by Mr. Erling Jensen, the Danish Minister of Commerce. The Chairman of the Federation of the Danish Farmers Unions also welcomed the chance for Danish food producers to show their products alongside their international competitors. The fair was the first such to be held in Denmark and was held at the Bella Centre, Copenhagen, October 12-21.

One hall of the Bella Centre was occupied by Danish food firms and Danish agents for foreign companies, while the other main hall held the International Section with national pavilions. The EEC countries had arranged to exhibit in the same area: the British pavilion was situated between those of France and West Germany.

Seventeen British firms exhibited under joint venture terms, sponsored by the British Food Export Council and supported by the British Overseas Trade Board. The majority of these exhibitors were experienced at exhibiting overseas and there were two firms, A. L. Simpkin and Co. Ltd., Sheffield, and Schwartz Spices Ltd. of High Wycombe, which were showing overseas, under Government auspices, for the first time.

There were nearly 400 exhibitors, in all, with national stands from Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, France, Great Britain, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Spain and Venezuela. The British pavilion was praised by both exhibitors and public for its design and practicality.

The third and smallest hall of the Bella Centre contained 25 food packaging and machinery companies. An International Food Conference was held, October 15-19, in a specially-constructed conference hall. Among the speakers at the Conference were Professor A. W. Holmes, BSE, PLD, FRIC, of the British Food Manufacturing Industries Research Association; Vernon Rich of Unigate Foods Ltd.; and John G. L. Barclay of W. A. Baxter and Sons Ltd.

The British Ambassador to Denmark, Mr. A. A. S. Stark, CMG, CVO, and Mrs. Stark visited the fair and spoke with the British exhibitors and their Danish agents. They also paid visits to the West German and French national pavilions and the ambassadors of these countries visited the British pavilion.

The fair was open to the trade each day from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm and to the public from 2.00 pm to 10.00 pm and the organisers report that 70,000 people attended of whom about 20,000 were from the trade in various parts of the world.

Most of the British exhibitors were very satisfied with their participation. At present the UK exports foodstuffs and beverages to Denmark to the value of £8.7 million, while similar Danish exports to Britain value about £200 million. Nevertheless, Denmark, with its friendly welcome to British food manufacturers, is a small but worthwhile market—and this was demonstrated by the interest shown in British food products at Food Fair 73 by both the Scandinavian trade and the public.

Tokyo: furniture sell-out at new marketing centre

SALES worth £155,000 and expected orders of £250,000 in the coming 12 months are results of the successful showing of British products at the Furniture Exhibition held at the British Export Marketing Centre, Tokyo, October 29-November 4, sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board. The contents of all the stands were sold on the first day.

Against a background of the 1973 projected rate of exports to Japan of £300,000, this is an outstanding performance for one week, especially when taking into account the fact that half the exhibitors were new to the market and some of the major suppliers to Japan were not represented.

The Japanese took a special interest in reproduction antique furniture and items made out of English yew. Mr. John Diab of the British Furniture Manufacturers Export Club said: 'We have come at exactly the right moment. The interest is remarkable and the British Export Marketing Centre offers the perfect opportunity to explore the market'.

Safety in numbers of works devices at German event

From C. Rogers, Commercial Section, British Consulate-General, Dusseldorf: The exhibition and congress on Industrial Safety and Factory Hygiene, Dusseldorf, October 3-6, attracted over 10,000 trade visitors who came chiefly from surrounding European countries. The exhibition is held every two years in Dusseldorf and is now firmly established as one of the most important in Europe for protective clothing, helmets, goggles, pollution control equipment and safety devices of all kind for industry. There were 183 exhibitors, including 32 foreign firms.

The British contingent, under the sponsorship of the London Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the British Overseas Trade Board, numbered 15 firms, as compared with nine firms in 1971. There were also two independent exhibitors. The exhibition itself covered 58,000 sq. ft. and the British joint venture stand 2,600 sq. ft.

The British firms booked over £20,000 worth of business and all of them expect substantial follow-up orders. Several firms were very satisfied with the results and one booked orders to the value of £17,000 for safety footwear. Another British company selling respiratory equipment and ear defenders took £1,000 and received world-wide interest in its products. One company entered into negotiation with five potential agents for the Federal Republic of West Germany and three potential agents for France, Austria and Luxembourg as a direct result of participation.

The consensus expressed by the British participants was that the exhibition created new markets, new potential agents and an insight of what competitors were doing. The indirect devaluations of sterling and the initial reduction in tariffs have certainly created a favourable climate and the general feeling is that Britain is now very competitive.

Luxury caravans on trail to success at Dusseldorf's international drive

From R. B. Woodham, British Consulate-General, Dusseldorf: According to the many dealers assembled at the International Caravan Salon, Essen, October 13-21, the trend towards larger, better quality and, of course, more expensive equipment continues on the German market. German customers demand, and German manufacturers provide, a high standard of finish, luxury equipment and tasteful furnishings—at a correspondingly high price.

Unexpectedly, at a time when money is tight and credit expensive, the larger manufacturers such as Tabbert, Knaus and Wilk found that their sales of the largest caravans in their ranges attracted more attention and were more in demand at the exhibition than ever before, whereas inquiries after their smaller caravans were, if not disappointing, something less than they had hoped for.

The demand for the larger caravans is probably stimulated by the desire for a second home for weekends and holidays, a desire fulfilled in the United Kingdom by mobile homes or static caravans which are so large and so comfortable —and so unroadworthy—as to amount to transportable weekend cottages. Difficulties placed in the way of siting these mobile homes by authorities in Germany discourage or even in some cases prohibit the use of them. German authorities classify them largely as constructions requiring compliance with building regulations rather than movable trailers. Therefore, the very large touring caravans, which nevertheless conform to the German specifications concerning roadworthiness, take their places as holiday homes. The 'mobile homes' are now, in fact, excluded from the Essen Caravan Salon by the organisers and a separate exhibition, 'Mobilheim', took place in Dusseldorf from September 29-October 7.

The fundamental design of caravans remains unchanged and unchangeable and it is in the use of interior space, the quality of furniture and fittings and the choice of colour schemes that noticeable improvements can be made. Here the German manufacturers cater for a clientele who use their caravans all the year round and expect a higher degree of comfort than is normal. Underfloor insulation, double-glazed windows, the use of superior-looking woods as trimmings and a wealth of well-fitted cupboards are now demanded. And the furnishings reflect the muted tastes of the wealthier German middle classes. When one is purchasing a caravan with a price tag of £4,000 or over, such as the biggest, most luxurious Tabbert 'Comtesse', one is entitled to demand the very best and the German housewife—who, the manufacturers say, makes most of the decisions on caravans—does make just such a demand.

There was a limited representation of the British caravan industry. On the British joint venture stand eight firms showed under the auspices of the National Caravan Council with the support of the British Overseas Trade Board. Though the stand was attractive and in a very good position near the main entrance, it was small and the exhibits were somewhat eclipsed by the more lavish and spacious displays of bigger ranges in the rest of the halls. Nevertheless, the level of inquiries was satisfactory, if not spectacular, for the three trailer caravan manufacturers who showed smaller models.

ICP Recreational Vehicles' 'Suntrekker' demountable motor caravan attracted immediate attention, however, including a television team from Westdeutsche Rundfunk on the first day and was given a spot lasting some 20 seconds on the 'Hier und Heute' programme that evening. A continual stream of interested visitors, and many serious inquiries from both the public and the trade were received by this firm, together with some valuable orders on the spot. There was not a comparable vehicle in the exhibition, though it is noticeable that motor caravans are appearing increasingly on the scene and are attracting more and more attention.

Other firms on the British stand which were very pleased with the exhibition were B. and B. Trailers and Lab Craft Ltd., the latter showing its lamp and lighting equipment. Both these firms had a fair number of inquiries which they thought should lead to good business.

The exhibition—which was held in 14 Halls, two of them temporary constructions, covering an area of 52,000 sq. m and on 1,000 sq. m of open air space—attracted about 120,000 visitors mostly from Germany, though there were buyers and dealers present from all over Europe. Over 160 exhibitors from 14 countries showed some 700 models of touring caravans, tents and trailers. The exhibition, organised by the Verband Deutscher Wohnwagenhersteller (Association of German Caravan Manufacturers), will next take place September 18-October 6, 1974.

Protective clothing is inspected by a visitor to a British stand at last month's Industrial Safety and Factory Hygiene Exhibition and Congress in Dusseldorf.

UK joint display at medical show

From R. W. James, Commercial Department, British Embassy, Brussels: Sixteen British companies took part in a joint venture organised by the British Overseas Trade Board and the British Hospital Export Council at the 8th International Exhibition of Hospital and Medical Equipment, at the Centre Rogier, Brussels, October 18-25. The BHEC also had an information stand which attracted a constant stream of visitors.

Apart from the British joint venture, the only other official participation was an American information stand. There were 200 exhibitors in all, including a small number from France, Italy and Germany. Three British companies took part independently. As hospital and medical equipment in Belgium is dominated by foreign imports, however, this was *ipso facto* a genuinely international exhibition at which the UK was, additionally, well represented on the stands of local agents. The Belgian market is a competitive and difficult one in which we are faced with very strong competition from the USA, Germany, France, Scandinavia and, increasingly from Japan.

The British exhibitors were, nevertheless, generally satisfied that it was a worthwhile showcase for their products. Although they were unanimous that it went on too long—and this is a common complaint about most exhibitions in Brussels—there were nearly 37,000 visitors and they received their fair share of them.

The very specialised companies were frankly disappointed with the small number of visitors interested in their technical specialities.

Camera Talks with an attractive and extensive collection of educational film strips, had a flock of visitors and found an agent. Remploy Ltd. and Day's Medical Aids Ltd., both active in the field of aids for the handicapped, were also successful in arranging local representation, as were George Ellison Ltd. for a range of specialised hospital beds. Medic-Bath Ltd. had a number of interesting inquiries for its specialised bath. Other firms taking part included John Dickinson, Lucas Medical Equipment, Andrews Maclaren, Cuxson Gerrard, Columbus Dixon, LK Industries and Mecanaids, All of which are represented in Belgium.

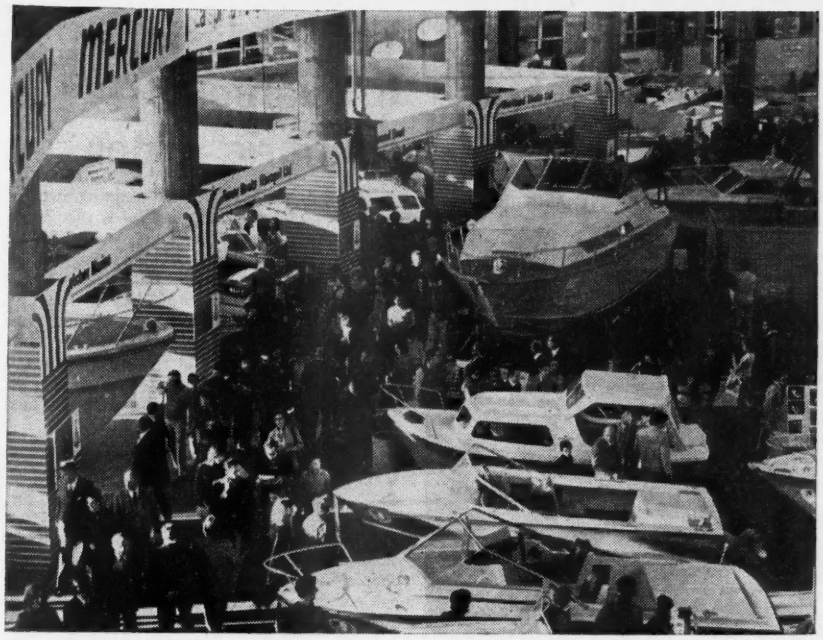
British firms exhibiting in Tokyo and New York

BRITISH firms are exhibiting capital goods equipment in Tokyo and New York this month: they are taking part in two first-time joint ventures sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board in conjunction with the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

British Advanced Welding Equipment Exhibition, Tokyo, November 19-24: this event is in the newly-opened British Export Marketing Centre and displays a laser profile cutting machine (profiles used for cutting of shoe leather, perspex and cardboard); Metal Inert Gas wet welding process (a demonstration tank with divers is being provided); an advanced electron beam welder; a 1½ ton advanced neodmium laser system for engineering production; and plasma arc thermo-couple welding equipment.

Exposition of Chemical Industries, New York, November 26-30: at the New York Coliseum, British companies will display chemical and effluent plant, hygrometers, glass process plant, Dewpoint meters, ultrasonic homogenisers and industrial design services.

Trade missions: parties from the British Hosiery and Knitwear Group, Teesside Chamber of Commerce, the Gauge and Toolmakers Association and an agricultural engineers group are visiting North America this month under the auspices of the British Overseas Trade Board.



Lord Limerick at Paris event

LORD LIMERICK, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade, visited Paris on November 19 where he attended the 9th International Building Exhibition (BATIMAT) which is being held until November 25.

BATIMAT, a biennial event, is one of the largest and most important exhibitions for the building industry and there have been Government-assisted participations by British companies regularly since 1963. This year the British participation, sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board in conjunction with the Building Materials Export Group and the British Carpets Export Promotion Council, is the largest ever.

A total of 38 companies, occupying an area of over 1,200 sq. m and exhibiting a variety of building materials and components and a selection of carpets for new buildings and projects. In addition, a trade information stand, organised by the British Overseas Trade Board and the British Ceramic Plant and Machinery Manufacturer's Association, is presenting graphics and models to demonstrate the range of equipment which the industry has to offer.

Britain has the largest foreign entry at Genoa International Boat Show

From H. Blackstone, Commercial Section, British Consulate-General, Genoa: For the third year in succession, a collective joint venture display of British boats and equipment enjoyed great success at Genoa's International Boat Show, October 19-28. Similar satisfaction was also reported by local agents of numerous other British firms represented elsewhere in the exhibition.

This well known event continues to expand in all respects and this year a total area, indoor and outdoor, of 135,000 sq. m. was occupied by about 1,400 exhibitors, nearly half of whom were foreign. Of the latter, Britain again led the field with no fewer than 140 firms (*see picture*). Once more, record crowds visited the show, including a large number of tradesmen from 25 countries, particularly France, Germany, Finland, Sweden, Spain, Hungary and Brazil. Several Eastern European countries also sent special trade delegations.

The BOTB joint venture stands, again sponsored by SBBNF, this year comprised 16 firms with the usual wide range of boats and equipment. Orders for nearly 200 boats and a large amount of equipment and accessories were taken on collective stands for a total of £370,000. Our exhibitors were highly satisfied with the show and prospects of further business were most encouraging. More than 75 per cent of these sales were small power boats which again enjoyed tremendous success.

Our range of open and cabin sailing craft, as usual, attracted much attention from discerning potential buyers. All boats on this stand were disposed of and exhibitors were once again confident that interesting business would ensue.

In the equipment and accessory pavilion, results were also satisfactory and business worth some £75,000 was transacted in instruments, fittings, engines and generators, as well as a large range of accessories and yachting clothing.

As in the past, the show also served to ensure direct contact with the trade, as well as for the appointment of agents where required.

The Genoa International Boat Show continues to grow in size and importance and, though the dates this year clashed with those of Hamburg, it serves a vast expanding market. The fact that foreign participation and interest also grow considerably year by year is significant. Space is in ever greater demand and an additional pavilion for floating craft is planned. The 1974 show will take place October 18-27.

New designs introduced at Irish hardware fair

From James Graham, Second Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, Dublin: The second Irish Hardware and Household Goods Fair took place in the light and airy Exhibition Hall of the Royal Dublin Society, October 9-11. The Fair was opened by the Minister for Industry and Commerce, Mr. Justin Keating, who toured the stands where 105 exhibitors showed goods from 37 countries, including 25 British firms in a BOTB-supported joint venture organised by the Hardware Manufacturers Association.

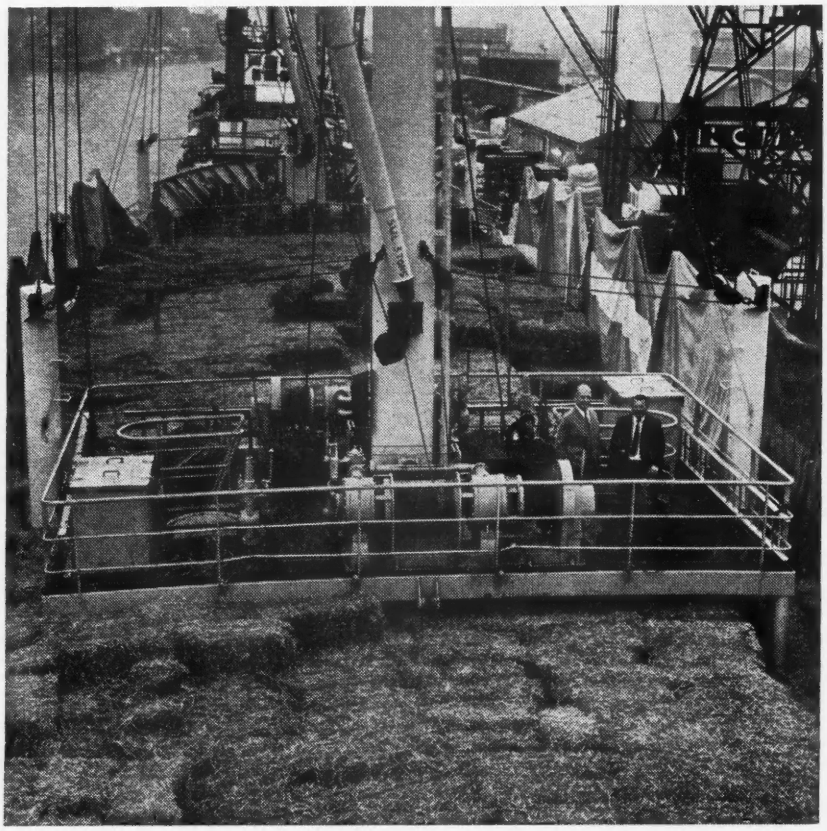
The fair, which was 'trade only', attracted some 4,000 people and exhibitors were pleased with the number of serious inquiries received.

British hardware is already well known in Ireland but the event provided a useful opportunity for firms to display new lines and to reinforce contacts with agents and buyers.

Items shown for the first time by British exhibitors at the fair included a thermostatically-controlled heated cupboard and a heated top surface in the Ekco HO 38 Sovereign trolley (Ekco Heating and Appliances Division—Pye Ltd.); the Alveston bar set of six stylish stainless steel bar tools in a specially-designed leather-grained storage tray (Old Hall Tableware Ltd.); the 'Never Before' range of five items to aid amateur and professional gardeners (Pan Britannica Industries Ltd.); and the Autosonic battery alarm clock (Smith's Industries Ltd.). Considerable interest was arounded by the demonstrations of the Jointmaster precision sawing jig which enables anyone to make perfect joints quickly and easily (Copydex Ltd.).

In general, it was a satisfactory fair and virtually all the exhibitors look forward to attending the next, in 1975.

On the stand of James Neill (Sheffield) Ltd. at last month's Irish Hardware and Household Goods Fair are (l to r): John Rainey, agent in Ireland; W. R. Tucker, area export sales manager; Stanley Rutledge, managing director, Rutledge Thompson; R. Bryan and R. Fennell, both of J. S. Rainey



Within a few months, it is likely that at least 20,000 tons of straw, much of it from East Anglia, will have been shipped for animal fodder from Great Yarmouth to drought-ridden Cyprus. Bill Walton, manager of Cory Brothers Shipping's office at Great Yarmouth (pictured above the sea of straw with ship's master, Captain H. Thygesen) thinks it is probably the first time that it has been exported from Britain in any quantity. The shipper is Terry Ward, farmer and riding stable proprietor, Caister. It is hoped to average one sailing a week through the winter. The straw is packed in bales measuring 4 ft. by 2 ft. by 18 in. but it is hoped to compress them further. On deck, the straw is lashed down and covered by tarpaulins for the 14-day voyage to the Eastern Mediterranean.

Leyland's first major export orders for new British buses top £2.5m

EXPORT orders for nearly 200 Leyland National buses, valued at over £2.5 million, have been won in the past month by British Leyland. These orders, the first major export sales of the revolutionary integral bus, were won against the full weight of international competition, states the company.

Ninety vehicles valued at nearly £1.360 million are to be supplied through United Transport Overseas Ltd. to Jamaica Omnibus Services Ltd., which holds the exclusive licence for public transport in the capital city of Kingston. This order follows the successful operation of the 10 National buses delivered to Jamaica early this year.

Seventy Nationals worth over £1 million have been ordered by the Capital Territory of Canberra. These buses will be equipped with four-speed semi-automatic gearboxes. They will be for city operation in the Australian capital.

This order, added to one for 30 Nationals, announced in September by the Premier of Victoria, for Melbourn Metropolitan Tramways, brings Australian orders up to a total of 100 units. The buses will join large existing Leyland fleets.

They will be shipped for completion locally by Bus Bodies Division of Leyland Australia. Planning for local content and assembly is already well advanced and executives of Truck and Bus Division of Australia are currently in the UK to establish necessary techniques and facilities.

Creating animal feed mill for Poland's agriculture

SIMON-BARRON LTD. of Gloucester has been awarded a £312,000 contract to design and equip a new animal feed mill for Agromet, the Polish agricultural purchasing authority.

Although the company has sold machinery in Poland on a number of occasions this is the first order for a complete feed plant.

The mill is scheduled to go on stream in October 1974 and will be capable of producing 20 tons an hour of pelletised feedstuffs for the production of beef, pork, lamb, poultry.

Transmissions for vehicles—Bulgaria order

BRITISH expertise in the design and manufacture of torque converter transmissions is recognised by an order for these units, worth some £200,000, received by Brockhouse Engineering Ltd. of West Bromwich from Balkancar of Sofia.

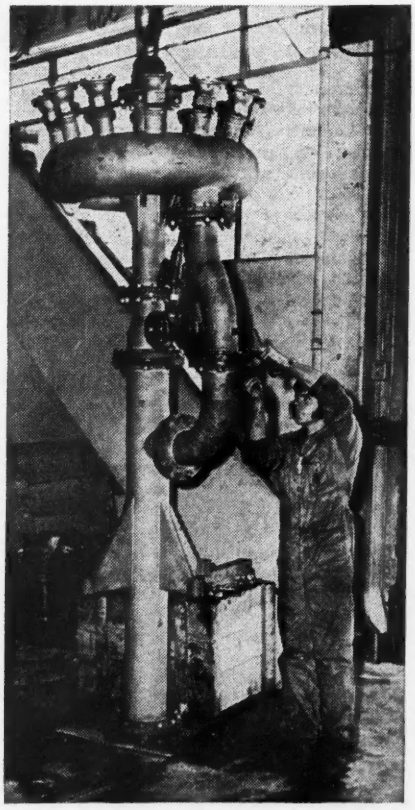
Balkancar, which already has a licensing agreement with Brockhouse to manufacture certain models in Bulgaria, and whose technicians have been trained at West Bromwich, will take delivery of this latest consignment, scheduled for fitting to three-ton trucks, between February and September 1974.

Electric motors supplied for China leatherworks

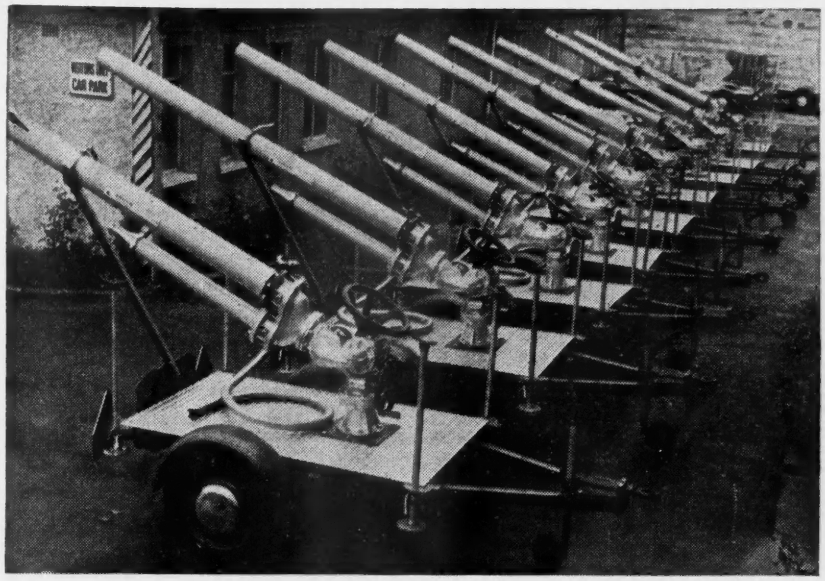
THE main ac drive motors for 65 leather treatment and processing machines for export to the People's Republic of China are being supplied by Crompton Parkinson Ltd., a Hawker Siddeley Electric company.

A total of 84 Crompton Parkinson motors are being fitted to leather buffing, shaving and setting machines manufactured by Turner Machinery Ltd. The order was placed at the British Technology Exhibition in Peking.

Turner Machinery has had wide experience in overseas markets and 80 per cent of its equipment is directly exported. Machines for both injection moulding plastics and leather treatment, equipped with Crompton Parkinsons motors, are in operation in most European countries, as well as Japan and Egypt.



Pipework fabricated by Dreh Ltd. at Swindon, Wilts, for a memorial fountain at Oriental Bay, Wellington Harbour, New Zealand.



Part of a consignment of 16 long-range trailer-mounted foam cannon supplied by Angus Fire Armour, of The Dunlop Group, to Turkey's national petroleum undertaking, Petkim Petrokimya, for fire protection at petrochemical installations in Turkey.

Slumberland beds bolster exports

SLUMBERLAND Contract Furnishing Ltd. of London, has completed an export order worth £84,000 to supply 1,500 beds to the new Sheraton Hotel, Hong Kong. This is believed by Slumberland to be the biggest-ever single bedding export order from the UK.

Slumberland shipped the beds in 40 ft. containers from its Oldham factory which handles all export production. The hotel is scheduled to open in January.

The contract, awarded against international competition, was negotiated jointly by J. C. Harvey, SCF chief executive, and agent in the Crown Colony John D. Hutchinson and Co. Ltd. SCF is a member of the Domestic Products Division of the Midlands-based Duport Group.

Rainbow spreading over United States gardens

EXPORT order worth £11,000 for some of the smallest items of garden equipment made in Britain has been won by S. H. Rainbow Ltd. of Leigh-on-Sea.

The order, placed by a leading distributor of garden products in the United States, is for the Rainbow range of 'Thing-a-me-jigs'—plastic products for tying, supporting and identifying plants, shrubs, flowers, trees.

The range comprises more than 30 different items including tree and shrub ties, plant labels, training wire, marker pencils, garden tape and flower arrangers.

Hundred thousand chicks fly from Kent to Greece

ONE hundred thousand extra chickens for the Christmas market in Greece will result from a record airlift of day-old commercial broilers from Manston Airfield in Kent.

This, claimed by the exporter to be the biggest single consignment of broilers ever to be sent from Britain, was packed in 1,000 boxes and flown direct to Athens by Vanguard freighter of Invicta International Airlines. The consignment was accompanied by Gordon Snaith, Ross export division's technical adviser.

The order, placed with Ross Poultry Ltd. by Mimikos Brothers, the largest broiler growers in Greece, is for the Ross I bird—the strain that is already meeting 50 per cent of the demand for table poultry in Greece.

Industrial glass company supplies Yugoslav mines with lenses for gas masks

SAFETY GLASS, Newcastle-based company in the ROMAG group, reports that it has beaten world competition as supplier of gas mask lenses for use in mines and industry in Yugoslavia.

'We are just completing an order for 100,000 lenses and now have received an extension of this to 200,000 to be ready within the next four months' says Michael Watson-Smyth, company joint managing director. 'From what we gather, we are one of the few companies in the world able to produce the specially curved and laminated lenses specified by Belgrade.'

Mr. Watson-Smyth recently returned from a business trip to Yugoslavia where he was advised that total requirements from his company next year would be a minimum of a further 200,000 making a total of 400,000 lenses over the two-year period.

Safety Glass is an old-established concern specialising in the processing of glass for industrial and military purposes. Although geared-up for overseas business, the Yugoslav order is the company's first major export achievement.

Speeding Norwegian mail

MANUFACTURERS Equipment Co. Ltd. the Fenner Group's Hull-based package handling associate, has secured its largest-ever export order for a Rapistan conveying system. Worth almost £350,000, it is for the mechanisation of the packet system in the new Oslo post office.

The contract was signed in Oslo by MEC representatives and work is due to start immediately. The tender was international and the consultant on the mechanical side was the British Postal Consultancy Service. Management of the entire contract will be by IDC Ltd. of Stratford-on-Avon.

Algerians take pharmaceutical storage system

DEXION Overseas Ltd. of Wembley has been chosen by the Pharmacie Centrale Algerienne (PCA) as the supplier of a complete and integrated storage and materials handling system for three distribution centres at Algiers, Oran and Constantine.

In these three regional depots, PCA, a State organisation responsible to the Ministry of Health, will store all national requirements for pharmaceutical products and medical equipment and will supply all chemists and hospitals in the country. 1974 will see the introduction of free medicine in Algeria, states Dexion, so this aspect of the economy is fast expanding.

The installations comprise live storage in the form of Dexion Pallet Glidestock, adjustable pallet racking, three-tier shelving and associated handling equipment. They have all been designed to take account of PCA's intention to incorporate computerised stock control.

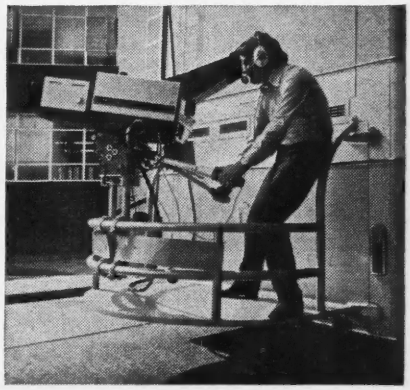
This contract, signed in Algiers, is worth almost £1m.

Weighing up prospects of exporting to Cuba

BIRMINGHAM-BASED Avery Export Ltd. has won an £80,000 export order from Cuba for over 600 weighing machines. This is the biggest single purchase of scales made by Cuba in recent years, states Avery. Satisfaction with previous Avery machines is cited as the chief reason for the success.

The order is expected to satisfy the immediate weighing needs of most sectors of Cuban industry. The 600 machines range from shop scales and light industrial scales to automatic weighers for animal-feed plants and corrosion-resistant scales for fish docks. Spares valued at £6,000 form part of the order.

Maurice Hume, the company's recently-appointed regional manager, negotiated the business with Maquimport, the Cuba Government purchasing agency.



British colour television equipment worth more than £200,000 is to be used for producing educational programmes in South America under an export contract awarded to EMI. The television division of EMI Sound and Vision Equipment Ltd. of Hayes, Middlesex, is currently supplying the Brazilian foundation, Fundacao Centro Brasileiro de TV Educativa, with full broadcast-quality colour television systems including a 26 ft. long outside broadcast vehicle and two EMI 2005 colour cameras, one of which is pictured here.

When overseas contracting takes you to

Abu Dhabi
Afghanistan
Algeria
Australia
Austria

Bahamas
Bahrein
Belgium
Bolivia
Bulgaria
Burma
Brazil

Cameroon
Canada
Central African Republic
Chile
Colombia
Congo
Costa Rica
Cyprus
Czechoslovakia

Dahomey
Denmark
Dominican Rep.
Dubai
Dutch West Indies

Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Ethiopia

Finland
France

Germany
Ghana
Greece
Guatemala
Guadeloupe

Honduras
Hong Kong
Hungary

Iceland
India
Indonesia
Iran
Iraq
Ireland
Italy
Ivory Coast

Jamaica
Japan
Jordan
Jugoslavia

Kenya
Korea (S)
Kuwait

Lebanon
Liberia
Luxembourg
Libya

Madagascar
Malaysia
Mauritius
Mexico
Morocco
Mozambique

Netherlands
New Zealand
Nigeria
Norway

Pakistan
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Puerto Rico

Qatar

Reunion

Rumania

Saudi Arabia
Senegal
Singapore
Somalia
South Africa
Spain
Sudan
Surinam
Sweden
Switzerland
Syria

Taiwan
Tanzania
Thailand
Trinidad & Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey

Uganda
Uruguay
U.S.A.
U.S.S.R.

Venezuela
Vietnam (S)

Zaire
Zambia

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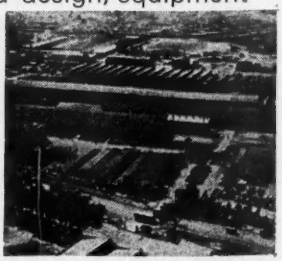
Brown Boveri, Mannheim, Germany.



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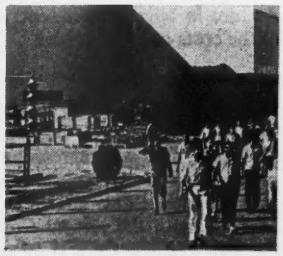
Brown Boveri, Baden, Switzerland.



Brown Boveri, Makapura, India.

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BBC
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Modified arrangements for Commonwealth Preference

1. In 1974 goods from some countries in the Commonwealth Preference Area (CPA) will remain entitled to enter the United Kingdom duty-free or at the existing preferential rates but goods from the other countries will not.

This means that the present arrangements for qualifying for Commonwealth Preference in the United Kingdom must be modified in certain respects with effect from January 1, 1974. In modifying the origin rules the Government's aim will be to:

(a) ensure that United Kingdom obligations under the Treaty of Accession are honoured;
(b) make the minimum changes necessary so as to avoid as far as practicable adverse effects on Commonwealth Preference Area exporters;
(c) disturb the existing procedural and documentation arrangements as little as possible.

The present note indicates how the Department thinks this might best be done. Paragraph 8 explains in detail the duty position giving rise to modifications of the origin rules, which is dealt with in paragraphs 2-7.

Origin Rules

2. Community obligations do not require change in the basic concepts used for determining Commonwealth origin (eg that a minimum proportion of the costs of manufacturing an article—usually referred to as 'Commonwealth content'—should be attributable to the costs of Commonwealth labour, overheads and materials); nor in the rules applied to particular products (eg that the requisite Commonwealth content should be 75 per cent for optical goods and 50 per cent for machinery). And as both have remained unchanged for many years and are well known both to traders using the rules and to officials administering them, the Department sees good reason for leaving them as they are.

3. The United Kingdom tariff has not hitherto differentiated between the goods of individual countries in the CPA. Consequently, the rules of origin which determine the eligibility of goods for Commonwealth preference have hitherto treated the Area as if it were a single country. The 'Commonwealth content' needed for goods to qualify for preference could be acquired either in a single CPA country or by 'cumulation', that is to say by aggregating the Commonwealth content acquired in any number of CPA countries. From January 1, 1974, however, there will be differing rates of duty on Commonwealth goods according to their actual country of origin.

4. This means it will no longer be possible to continue treating the CPA as a single country. The provisions for cumulation of Commonwealth content will need to be changed so as to ensure that goods of the countries to which new or increased rates of duty apply cannot become free of such duties by aggregating their cost with the cost of, eg minimal manufacture, in one of the countries whose goods are not subject to such duties. Furthermore, it will be necessary to amend the consignment rule so that from January 1, 1974 goods from the CPA countries benefiting from the 'standstill' will qualify for admission into the United Kingdom duty-free or at the existing preferential rates of duty only if they are consigned to the United Kingdom from one of those countries.

Changes proposed

5. It is proposed, firstly, to leave the Commonwealth Preference Regulations, 1958 (Statutory Instruments 1958 No. 1874) unchanged and to admit from any CPA country goods which comply with those Regulations at the 'C1' rate of duty. (Paragraph 8a explains the different duty rates.)

6. Second, it is intended to establish a separate area within the CPA, consisting of those CPA countries and territories whose goods are entitled, under the Community Treaties, to remain free from new and any increased duties imposed on January 1, 1974 until January 31, 1975 (or such earlier date as emerges from the negotiations provided for in Protocol 22 to the Treaty of Accession and currently in train). This new Area, to be known as the Commonwealth Preference Standstill Area, will consist of Cyprus, Papua-New Guinea, the independent Commonwealth countries listed in Annex VI to the Treaty of Accession, the United Kingdom dependent territories listed in Article 24(2) of the Treaty, together with the United Kingdom itself.

7. Goods originating in this new Area would be entitled to the 'C2' rate of duty described in paragraph 8(c). The rules for determining whether goods originated in the new Area would be the same as the rules used now for Commonwealth Preference *except that* references to the present Preference Area would be replaced by references to the new Area. The countries and territories forming the new Area would remain part of the CPA and, as far as materials going *from* the new Area to other parts of the CPA are concerned, the CPA would remain a single entity with full cumulation. There would, equally, be full cumulation *within* the new Area. But materials coming *into* the new Area from other parts of the CPA would only assist the finished product to qualify for Commonwealth Preference at the C1 rate. To qualify for the C2 rate goods would have to be grown, produced or manufactured in the new Area; the appropriate proportion of the cost of manufactured goods would have to be attributable to manufacturing costs incurred in the new Area; and all goods would have to be consigned to the United Kingdom from a place in that Area. The following examples show how the arrangements would affect an article manufactured in a country in the New Area—Nigeria—which requires 50 per cent Commonwealth content and is at present free of duty under Commonwealth Preference:

Content attained in the CPA Balance of content non-CPA	Rate of duty payable on January 1, 1974
1. The costs incurred in Nigeria on labour and overhead and goods grown or produced in that country represent 50 per cent of the costs of manufacture	C2
2. Costs as in example 1 represent 25 per cent of the costs of manufacture. The costs of goods grown or produced in Ghana and used in manufacture in Nigeria represents 25 per cent of the costs of manufacture	C2
3. Costs as in example 1 represent 30 per cent of the costs of manufacture. Costs of labour and overhead on components manufactured in Canada and incorporated into the article manufactured in Nigeria represent 20 per cent of the costs of manufacture	C1
4. Costs as in example 1 represent 35 per cent of the costs of manufacture. Costs of goods grown in Australia and used in manufacture in Nigeria represent 10 per cent of the costs of manufacture	Transiting full rate

Duty position

8. The duty position under the tariff due to come into operation on January 1, 1974 will be as follows:

(a) The 'C1' rate. This will represent a reduction by 40 per cent of the difference between the present Commonwealth Preference rate of duty and the rate of duty shown in the EEC Common Customs Tariff (CCT). Thus if the present Commonwealth Preference duty is 7.5 per cent and the CCT is 10 per cent the 'C1' rate will be 8.5 per cent. Where, as in most cases, the present Commonwealth

Preference rate is zero the 'C1' rate will simply be 40 per cent of the CCT rate.

The 'C1' rate will apply to all goods qualifying for Commonwealth Preference under the existing rules, including goods from the countries mentioned in Paragraph 6 which do not satisfy the rules for the proposed Commonwealth Preference Standstill Area.

(b) The 'C2' rate. In the case of goods currently free of duty in the substantive tariff (viz, ignoring Temporary Exemptions and Generalised Preferences rates) the 'C2' rate will be nil. In the case of goods suitable under the present Commonwealth Preference arrangements (eg clocks and watches, man-made fibre textiles) the 'C2' rate will be whichever is the lower of the current rate and the 'C1' rate explained in (a) above.

The 'C2' rate will apply only to goods satisfying the origin rules for the proposed Commonwealth Preference Standstill Area. Goods which are manufactured in that Area but do not satisfy these rules may nevertheless satisfy the present rules and qualify for admission at the 'C1' rate.

(The proposals described above do not affect certain other arrangements unrelated to Commonwealth Preferences under which goods originating in the countries and territories constituting the Standstill Area may be entitled to preferential tariff treatment in the United Kingdom, eg Generalised Preferences.)

Shipbuilding—relief from import duty

RELIEF from import duty has been granted on imported goods consigned direct to registered shipyards for use in building, repairing or refitting ships and on certain goods imported for use for constructing or repairing the boilers or propelling machinery of ships. In both cases the relief has been restricted to articles for ships at least 80 gross tons registered weight and Danish type seine net vessels. The statutory authority for this is contained in Section 5 of the Import Duties Act 1958, the Import Duty Reliefs (No. 1) Order 1958 SI 1973, the Import Duty Reliefs (No. 2) Order 1959 SI 1893 and the Import Duty Reliefs (Definition of Ships) Order 1960 SI 740.

The original Community has also had similar, but somewhat wider, provisions. The UK will adopt these arrangements from the beginning of 1974. The relevant parts of Section 5 of the Import Duties Act and the associated Orders mentioned above will then be revoked.

An Order operative from January 1, 1974, has been laid before the House providing for total suspension of import duty on goods for use in the construction, repair, maintenance or conversion of the ships, boats, or other vessels listed below or for fitting out or equipping such ships, boats or other vessels:

Heading no.	Description of goods
89.01	Ships, boats and other vessels not falling within heading nos. 89.02 to 89.05: A. Warships B. Other: I. Sea-going vessels
89.02	Vessels specially designed for towing (tugs) or pushing other vessels: A. Tugs B. Pusher craft: I. Sea-going
89.03	Light-vessels, fire-floats, dredgers of all kinds, floating cranes, and other vessels, the navigability of which is subsidiary to their main function; floating docks: A. Sea going vessels

As noted above the new scheme will provide for relief on a similar range of goods to the previous arrangement. It will, however, extend relief from duty to goods for vessels which are designed as sea-going and have an overall length of 12 metres or more.

The Import Duties Reliefs (No. 2) Order 1958 SI 1974 providing for relief from import duty on ships for breaking up will also be revoked from the end of this year. The present relief applies to any ship imported for the purpose of being broken up or any goods imported in any such ship and forming part of its equipment or machinery. The relief will be continued unaltered by means of a duty free sub-heading in Chapter 89 of the UK Tariff.

From January 1, 1974 the basic customs procedures currently in force for the goods referred to in the first paragraph of this notice (see Notices Nos. 324 and 325) will be maintained, modified by the pattern of control set out in Notice No. 770, 'Tariff Liability dependent on End-Use'. Importers will be required to undertake to ensure that goods on which relief is claimed will be used for the prescribed purpose. In some circumstances security for the full rate of duty will be required.

The control of the relief from import duty on ships for breaking up will be as set out in Notice No. 770.

Inquiries about this notice may be made to the Department of Trade and Industry, Tariff Division, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ (tel: 01-222 7877, ext. 3646) or to HM Customs and Excise, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3 (tel: 01-626 1515, ext. 2570).

Imports of bananas from the Dollar Area: supplementary quota arrangements

To offset the expected shortfalls in supplies of fresh bananas to the United Kingdom from other sources, a further supplementary quota of 5,000 tons has been established for imports from the Dollar Area.

In order to ensure continuity of imports, the Department's Import Licensing Branch will allocate the supplementary quota among existing licence holders, having regard to the use they have made of their existing allocations under the current quotas for 1973/74. Import licences will be issued to importers against their allocations only for those amounts for which they can produce evidence of a firm contract with the overseas suppliers, Licences issued under these arrangements will not be valid after September 30, 1974.

Notes

The basic quota for imports of fresh bananas from the Dollar Area for 1973/74 was established at 4,000 tons. A supplementary quota of 10,000 tons was announced in mid-October. The quota year runs from October 1 to September 30. There are no restrictions on imports from other than Dollar Area sources.

The Dollar Area, as defined in the Open General Import Licence, means Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Republic of Honduras, Liberia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, the Philippines, the United States of America and Venezuela.

Applications for temporary exemption from import duty

THE Department of Trade and Industry is considering applications for the temporary exemption from import duty of the materials listed below on the grounds that these materials are not made in this country or the Commonwealth or the supply available from

(*continued on next page*)

ENGLISH EXPORTERS (LONDON) LTD.
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TEMPORARY EXEMPTIONS
continued

these sources is not substantial having regard to the existing United Kingdom demand.

Representations are invited from manufacturers in this country or agents of Commonwealth manufacturers who consider they are, or will be within a reasonable period, in a position to supply a substantial proportion of the United Kingdom demand for these materials, or who are interested in their future production.

Temporary exemptions come into effect on the operative date of the Treasury Order in which the materials are specified and normally continue until the end of the current calendar year, when they are reviewed.

Interested parties who wish to make representations should address them to Tariff Division, Department of Trade and Industry, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, preferably through a Trade Association, giving the respective reference shown below and stating whether their names may be passed to the applicants for temporary exemption. Representations should be received by December 6.

Tariff heading	Proposed definition for tariff purposes	Applied for as	Exemption required until	Reference
28.52	Europium oxide	as in previous column	December 31, 1974	14821
	Yttrium oxide	as in previous column	December 31, 1974	14820
29.14	Acrylic acid	as in previous column	December 31, 1974	14926
	Methyl acrylate	as in previous column	December 31, 1974	14886
59.08	Textile fabrics coated with expanded poly (vinyl chloride), not containing silk and man-made fibres but containing woven fabric of which the cotton content exceeds 50 per cent by weight of the total textile fabric content	Expanded PVC on cotton	December 31, 1974	14851
84.06	Compression-ignition engines, assembled, in-line, four-cylinder, four-stroke, with indirect fuel injection, having a capacity of not less than 3,300 cubic centimetres and not more than 3,400 cubic centimetres and a weight of not more than 295 kilogrammes	Diesel engines	May 31, 1974	14607

Turkey: development plan

THE Department has now received a copy of the summary of the third Turkish five-year development plan (1973-77). This document is being held in the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library at Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, and is available on loan. **CRE ext. 5339**

United Arab Emirates: currency

THE United Arab Emirates Currency Board has issued a notice on the status of the Bahrain Dinar and Qatar Dubai Riyal.

Bahrain Dinars. The legal tender status of the Bahrain Dinar was withdrawn within the Emirates on November 18, 1973. No one within the Emirates is now obliged to accept Dinar currency in settlement of any debt or commitment. Banks accepted Dinars for deposit or exchange for Dirhams at par, up to and including November 18. Since that date the Bahrain Dinar has been regarded as a foreign currency within the UAE and will not necessarily be exchanged at par by banks.

Qatar Dubai Riyals. The legal tender status of the Qatar Dubai Riyal has already been withdrawn, but the Qatar Monetary Agency has continued to accept Riyals on a collection basis. This facility will end on November 30, 1973, and after that date no bank within the Emirates will be allowed to accept Qatar Dubai Riyals. Members of the public who still possess Qatar Dubai Riyals after November 30 may send them directly to the Qatar National Bank, Doha, who will pay the equivalent amount in new Qatar Riyals. This facility will again involve the public in some expense and it is in their interest to exchange all remaining Qatar Dubai Riyals at the earliest opportunity. **CRE ext. 5221**

Double taxation—Italy

THE Board of Inland Revenue announce that the Protocol amending the United Kingdom-Italy Double Taxation Convention, which was approved by Parliament on July 18, 1969, has now been ratified by the Government of the Italian Republic and has entered into force. The Protocol has been published as a Schedule to an Order in Council numbered SI 1973 No. 1763.

Hints to business men booklets

REVISED editions of the booklets on the Federal Republic of Germany and West Berlin, Italy, Ivory Coast (including Niger and Upper Volta), Jamaica (including Belize and the Cayman Islands), Panama, Saudi Arabia, and Yugoslavia have been published in the 'Hints to business men' series. British business men who intend visiting these countries on export business can obtain copies of the booklets on application to Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade and Industry, Room D05-09, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757, ext. 7146) or to any Regional Office of the Department of Trade and Industry.

ECGD backs investment in Nigerian oil seed processing firm

A NEW investment in Nigeria by the British Cotton Growing Association Ltd. has been insured by the Export Credits Guarantee Department under its Overseas Investment Insurance scheme.

The investment, about £176,000 in shares, will be used to help set up the new company of Gombe Oil Seed Processors Ltd. in the North Eastern State of Nigeria. This new company will operate a plant for crushing cottonseed and ground-nuts to produce edible oils and cattle cake. In addition to the British Cotton Growing Association investment, the North Eastern State Government will subscribe equity capital of approximately £264,000 and the New Nigerian Development Co. Ltd. and Northern Nigerian Investments Ltd. will contribute some £74,000 each. The enterprise will also employ loan capital of £440,000 and supplier credits totalling about £740,000. Rose, Downs and Thompson of Hull have been appointed main contractors for the plant and will be supplying over £1 million of equipment.

The UK investor's Nigerian subsidiary, Cotton and Agricultural Processors Ltd., will be managing agents for the new enterprise, which will provide employment for 105 people.

Commissioning of the plant is scheduled for the autumn of 1974. Initially all products of the plant will be exported, but it is hoped to build up the local market over two to three years.

Two SD14s for Dutch shipowners

THE Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed two loans totalling over £3 million which Williams and Glyn's Bank Ltd. is providing to help finance the purchase of two Austin and Pickersgill SD14 cargo vessels by Koninklijke Hollandsche Lloyd of the Netherlands. The vessels are scheduled for delivery in 1974. Repayment of the loans will be spread over eight years.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Department of Trade and Industry
1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
Tel. 01-222 7877

EDB Export Data Branch, Export Services Division
Department of Trade and Industry
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757

TARIFF & TRADE NOTICES

France

DUTY QUOTAS FOR SEED POTATOES: The French *Journal Officiel*, October 25, 1973, announced that, for the period up to and including June 30, 1974, the quota for seed potatoes (tariff no. 07.01 AIa) has been fixed at 40,000 metric tons of which:

35,000 metric tons for early varieties

5,000 metric tons for floury potatoes (variétés féculières).

Conditions for admission under the quota are set out in an Order of August 12, 1958, for the import of potatoes and in an Order of December 17, 1969, stating the general conditions for import duty quotas. The full French text of this notice, together with a specimen form on which applications for authority to export must be made, can be sent on request or seen at Export House.

EDB ext. 423/408/482

Spain

IMPORT REGULATIONS—POLYETHYLENE: The Spanish *State Gazette*, November 1, 1973, published a resolution authorising the import of polyethylene packaged in any type of package provided that it meets the following requirements:

It preserves the quality of the polyethylene

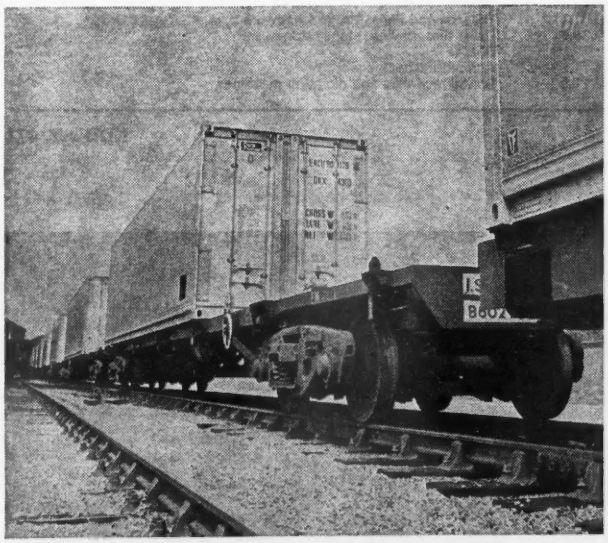
Perfect transport is guaranteed

It enables the Spanish Inspection Service (Servicio Oficial de Inspeccion, Vigilancia y Regulacion de Exportaciones) to inspect the product.

Transportation of polyethylene in bulk in road tankers is also authorised provided it is taken to properly conditioned silos and that previous permission has been obtained from the Direccion General de Politica Arancelaria e Importacion of the Spanish Ministry of Commerce. **EDB ext. 462/471/472/473**

IMPORT DUTY SUSPENSIONS—SEED POTATOES, KRAFT PAPER, ALUMINIUM PRODUCTS: The Spanish *State Gazette*, November 13, 1973 announced the suspension until December 31, 1973 of import duty on seed potatoes (tariff heading 07.01.A.1.b) for the Balearic Islands; and, for Spain in general, the suspension of import duty until February 12, 1974 on Kraft paper, tariff heading 48.01.C.1 and on semi-manufactured laminated aluminium products, tariff headings 76.03.A and 76.03.B.

EDB ext. 462/471/472/473



Crane Fruehauf Containers Ltd. has broken into the important Scandinavian container market by winning an order worth £200,000 for 155 40 ft. dry freight containers from the East Asiatic Company of Copenhagen. They will be used by Johnson/ScanStar, one of the most important Europe/North Pacific operators, whose container activities are being expanded. The picture shows the East Asiatic Company's containers leaving from the rail-head at North Walsham, Norfolk, close to the Crane Fruehauf container plant.

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available from the Department of Trade and Industry. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Divisions, DTI, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: 01-222 7877); and Export Data Branch (EDB), DTI, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (CRE or EDB) and the appropriate telephone extension number. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

CEMENT—DUTY-FREE IMPORT QUOTA: Notice was given in *Trade and Industry*, August 30, 1973 (page 445) of a duty-free import quota of 1 million tons of cement under subheading 25.23.D.Other, valid until October 25, 1973. The Spanish *State Gazette*, November 13, 1973 announced that the validity is extended to January 28, 1974. **EDB ext. 462/471/472/473**

FOREIGN CURRENCY AUTHORITY: As published in *Trade and Industry*, August 16, 1973, Decree 1791/1973 of July 26 reallocated the duties of the former Spanish foreign currency authority (IEME). The Spanish *State Gazette*, September 15, 1973, has since published an Order of September 6 further defining these functions, which are divided between the Bank of Spain and the Ministry of Commerce. Copies of the Order in Spanish may be obtained from CRE 3, and English translations will shortly be available.

CRE ext. 3476

Israel

TARIFF AMENDMENTS: The Israeli authorities have announced the following amendments to the Customs tariff:

Item no.	Description	Rate of duty
09.01	Subsection 1590 is superseded by:	IL.2.25 per kg
1590	Other:	
1592	Roasted, if released before February 2, 1974	IL.2.25 per kg
1593	Not roasted, if released before February 1, 1974	IL.1.75 per kg
32.09	After section 2000 insert:	
3000	Fireproof coating containing mixtures that regulate the transfer of heat through a thermic break-up and the creation of non-inflammable gases, if released before January 1, 1975	10% *ad val*
44.15	Section 2000 is superseded by:	
2000	Plywood:	
2010	Released before April 1, 1974	10% *ad val*
2090	Other	30% *ad val* but not less than IL.230 per m^3
	Section 9900 is superseded by:	
9900	Other:	
9910	Released before April 1, 1974	10% *ad val*
9990	Other	50% *ad val*
44.18	Section 9900 is superseded by:	
9900	Other:	
9910	Released before April 1, 1974	10% *ad val*
9990	Other	30% *ad val*
44.23	In section 2000, 'Prefabricated structures for industry' is superseded by 'Prefabricated structures for industry and services'	
48.01	Section 1000 is superseded by:	
1000	Newsprint:	
1010	Released before April 1, 1974	IL.0.125 per kg
1090	Other	IL.0.015 per kg +16% *ad val*
68.09	Section 9900 is superseded by:	
9900	Other:	
9910	Released before April 1, 1974	10% *ad val*
9990	Other	30% *ad val*
73.10	Section 2030 is superseded by:	
2030	Bars and rods, including wire rods, with projections or depressions (such as brackets, legs, grooves, holes) whether or not they have undergone a process of twisting:	
2031	If released before April 1, 1974	exempt
2039	Other	IL.0.45.per kg +20% *ad val*
84.58.9900	In this subsection, the rate of duty of 35% is superseded by	25% *ad val*

(continued on next page)

ISRAEL
continued

Amendments have also been made to the Israeli customs tariff which affect the following items:

'If released before October 1, 1973' is superseded by 'If released before April 1, 1974'

27.10.5030	32.07.2010	73.10.1011	73.10.1012	73.10.1017	73.10.1050
73.10.1070	73.10.1092	73.10.2020	73.11.1011	73.14.3030	73.15.2091

British exporters with inquiries should specify the items in which they are interested. **EDB ext. 420/475**

LABELLING OF GRAMOPHONE RECORDS: The Israeli authorities issued an order on September 7, 1973, in respect of the labelling of gramophone records. Copies of the order are available on request. **EDB ext. 420/475**

IMPORT LIBERALISATION LIST—COFFEE BEANS: The Israeli authorities have issued the following amendment to the Free Imports Order:

Item no.	Description	Special conditions
09.01.1590	Coffee beans not roasted, other than caffeine-free coffee beans	Special approval

EDB ext. 420/475

PURCHASE TAX AMENDMENTS: The Israeli authorities have issued amendments affecting the following items:

Stretch stockings of synthetic yarn
Machines for printing and stamping travel tickets (BN 84.54)
Plastic oilcloth
Beer, other than in barrels
Records of magnetic recording used with certain machines of BN Heading 84.52
Fireproof coating containing mixtures that regulate the transfer of heat through a thermic break-up and the creation of non-inflammable gases (BN 32.09)
Automatic vending machines

Inquiries from British exporters should specify the items in which they are interested. **EDB ext. 420/475**

Jordan

IMPORTS OF FOODSTUFFS: The Jordanian authorities have announced (although no official statements have yet been published) that imports of foodstuffs will not need to comply with the date stamping regulations until further notice. Furthermore, foodstuffs can, for the time being, be imported through any port without incurring the fine normally levied on goods entering the country via a port other than Aqaba. This means that goods can now be offloaded at, for example, Jedda or Kuwait and be transported by road into Jordan. No further information is available at the moment.

Syria

IMPORT REGULATIONS—LORRY CABS, DRINKING STRAWS, PARROTS: The Syrian authorities have announced that lorry cabs falling under BN 87.05 subheading C may now be imported directly from the country of origin. It has also been announced that plastic drinking straws (ex BN 39.02 C) and live parrots (ex BN 01.06 C 2) may now be imported.

EDB ext. 420/475

Iran

IMPORT REGULATIONS—TRUCKS: The Iranian authorities have announced that, pending further notice, registration of orders for the following goods does not need the prior approval of the Ministry of Economy:

BN tariff no.	Description
ex 87.02 C(2)	Trucks for hauling loads, and Compression-engined heavy duty trucks with a capacity of 8 tons or more.

EDB ext. 420/475

Cameroon

IMPORT LIBERALISATION: The following products, formerly subject to prior authorisation on importation, have now been liberalised for 1973:

03.02.12	Stockfish
07.01.01	Tomatoes
07.01.02	Onions, shallots and garlic
07.01.03	Potatoes
08.01	Pineapples, avocados, mangoes, coconuts
08.02	Citrus fruit fresh or dried
10.05	Maize
12.01.01-03	Ground nuts
12.01.05	Palm nuts and kernels
18.01	Cocoa beans, whole or broken, raw or roasted
22.02	Lemonade, flavoured aerated waters
22.03	Beer
22.05	Wine or fresh grapes; grape must with fermentation arrested by the addition of alcohol
22.06	Vermouths and other wines of fresh grapes flavoured with plants or aromatic extracts
22.07	Cider, perry, mead and other fermented beverages
22.09.01-32	Eau-de-vie, whisky, gin, anisated and other liqueurs, other spirituous beverages
34.01.11	Toilet or scented soap
34.02.21	Washing preparations
ex 44.25	Wooden handles
69.07.11	Tiles, paving flags, etc. of stoneware
69.08.11	Other tiles, paving, etc. of stoneware
ex 70.10	Bottles
84.21.09	Agricultural sprayers
92.11.00	Sound recorders and dictating machines

EDB ext. 472

A fleet of 20 British Leyland Land-Rovers prepares to leave on the first stage of a 3,000-mile mission to aid the drought-hit areas of Mali and Niger. The long-wheelbase Land-Rovers will be used for veterinary work among the severely depleted herds of cattle and other livestock.

Ghana

TEXTILE DESIGN LAW: The Textile Designs (Registration) Decree 1973 which replaces the Textile Designs (Registration Act) 1965 took effect on September 12, 1973. Under the decree the copyright in a registered design now subsists initially for five years and is renewable for two further periods of five years each on payment of renewal fees. A new form of registration to be known as 'associated textile designs' is introduced for designs which differ from existing registered designs of the same proprietor only in immaterial details or in features which are variants common in the trade. There is provision for opposition to be lodged against applications for registration and appeals against the decision of the Registrar may be made to the High Court. Registrations in existence at the operative date of the new decree are deemed to have been registered under it but the copyright in the designs concerned are to have effect for a total period of 15 years only from the date of original registration.

A copy of the decree is available for consultation in the Chancery House Annex of the Science Reference Library (Holborn Branch), Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1AY.

South Africa

TARIFF CHANGES: The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, October 26, 1973:

R. 1963: BN 38.19
Specific provision free of duty is made for ground calcium carbonate, the particles of which are coated with stearic acid or the like.

R. 1966: BN 84.06
The duty on the pistons specified in the subheading is amended from 20% to 20% or 500c per kg less 50% of the fob price.

R. 1967: BN 85.01
The provisions for electric motors are restated and the duty on certain double-speed electric motors is increased from 5% (General) and free (Preferential) to 30% (General) and 25% (Preferential).

INDUSTRIAL REBATES

R. 1964: 1. Provision is made for a rebate of the full duty on technical white oil, pentane, hexabromododecane, lauric diethanolamide and lauryl mercaptan, for the manufacture of synthetic resins and artificial plastics.
2. Provision is made for a rebate of the full duty on polyvinyl chloride foam plastic (closed cell), for the manufacture of life jackets.

R. 1965: BN 39.02
The provisions for a rebate of duty on polyvinyl chloride film or sheet, printed or unprinted, of a thickness not exceeding 0.5 mm, for the covering of blackboard, chipboard, hardboard and gypsum-board, are withdrawn.

R. 1968: BN 84.06
Pistons, whether or not fitted with gudgeon pins and piston rings, with a mass not exceeding 1 kg each, are excluded from unit packs of certain motor vehicles.

EDB ext. 471/472/473/462

The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, November 2, 1973:

R. 2056: BN 92.12
Specific provision, free of duty, is made for gramophone recordings (disc type), for teaching purposes.

R. 2057: BN 92.12
Gramophone records, for teaching languages, are exempted from sales duty.

INDUSTRIAL REBATES

R. 2058: BN 29.04
Provision is made for a rebate of the full duty on isopropyl alcohol, isobutyl alcohol and secondary butyl alcohol, for the manufacture of xanthates.

EDB ext. 471/472/473/462

CUSTOMS TARIFF APPLICATIONS: Customs Tariff Application List 609, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, November 16, 1973, contains applications to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on:

Leather cases for soccer, rugby, netball and similar balls, with or without bladders or laces.

Electric space heating apparatus (85.12.20), electric smoothing irons (85.12.40), electro-thermic domestic appliances (85.12.60), certain switches, switch plugs, switch units, switch cover plates, plugs, sockets or socket outlets, adaptors and lampholders (85.19.40 and 85.19.60.40).

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE.

CRE ext. 5274

MARINE FOOD: South African *Government Gazette* No. 4067 of November 2, 1973, carries details of the new regulations on marine food under the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act 1972. The regulations are effective from November 2, 1973.

EDB ext. 471/472/473/462

LABELLING REQUIREMENTS: South African *Government Gazette* No. 4067 of November 2, 1973, gives details of the proposed amendments to the regulations affecting labelling requirements under the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act 1972. Representations concerning these proposals should be made, before February 2, 1974, to the Secretary for Health, Private Bag X 88, Pretoria 0001. **CRE ext. 5274**

Mauritius

IMPORT PROHIBITION OF CYCLAMATES: The following notice about the ban on the use of cyclamates in food and drink was issued by the Mauritius Ministry of Health on October 18, 1973: 'Importers of food articles, which contain artificial sweeteners such as cyclamates and saccharins, are advised to contact the Ministry of Health before importing such articles as it is proposed in future to prohibit the importation and the sale of any food or drink, including artificial sweetening tablets, containing cyclamates. They are therefore advised to ensure forthwith that food articles, including soft drinks, imported by them do not contain cyclamates.'

EDB ext. 471/472/473/462

Pakistan

AGRICULTURAL PESTICIDES RULES: The *Pakistan Gazette*, August 13, 1973 published the Agricultural Pesticides Rules 1973 issued by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The rules, which came into force on effect, detail the pesticides falling within their scope. With reference to import of pesticides they stipulate that:

No pesticide, except for experimental purposes, shall be imported into Pakistan unless it has been registered under the procedure set out.

No pesticide shall be imported unless it complies strictly with the details given in the application for registration.

No pesticide shall be imported unless it is packaged and labelled in conformity with the rules.

No pesticide shall be imported unless the importer has proper facilities for storage of pesticides as laid down in the rules.

Copies are available on request. **EDB ext. 420/475**

Malaysia

CUSTOMS DUTIES (PENANG)—COTTON THREAD FOR CROCHET AND EMBROIDERY: The Malaysian *Government Gazette* has published an amendment to the Customs Duties (Penang) Order 1973. The Customs Duties (Penang) (Amendment) (No. 7) Order 1973 amends the schedule to the order by inserting heading numbers 55.06 200 and 55.06 300. The schedule lists goods on which duties are payable when imported into Penang.

EDB ext. 469/468/401

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Department of Trade and Industry
1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
Tel. 01-222 7877

EDB Export Data Branch, Export Services Division
Department of Trade and Industry
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757

Thailand

LEAD IN FOOD CONTAINERS: The Thai Ministry of Public Health has announced that from March 17, 1974, all kinds of ceramics or plated metalware used for food storage should not contain more than two milligrammes of soluble lead per litre of capacity. Details of the test method for determining lead content are available. **EDB ext. 401/468/469**

Australia

GATT ANTI-DUMPING CODE: The Australian Minister for Overseas Trade and the Minister for Customs and Excise have announced that the Australian Government has decided to accept the agreement on the implementation of Article VI of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which includes the anti-dumping code. The decision follows consideration of a report by an inter-departmental committee established by the Government to review customs valuation and anti-dumping legislation. Acceptance of the anti-dumping code will place Australia on common ground with its major trading partners. A new anti-dumping Bill to replace the existing Customs Tariff (Dumping and Subsidies) Act 1961-66 will be introduced during the autumn sittings next year. The inter-departmental committee has not yet completed its studies on the question of valuation but is to report to the Australian Government by December 1, 1973. Further details will be published in *Trade and Industry* as soon as possible. Ref. CRE 23536/4

CRE ext. 5318

REVOCATION OF DUMPING DUTIES ON GHERKINS AND ACETATE YARN: The Department of Trade and Industry has been notified by the British High Commission in Canberra that the dumping duty on gherkins (tariff items 20.01 and 20.02) was discontinued on October 25, 1973 and on continuous filament secondary acetate yarn (tariff item 51.01) on October 29, 1973. Ref. CRE 23536/4 **CRE ext. 5318/5319**

New Zealand

CUSTOMS TARIFF INQUIRIES—VARIOUS GOODS: The New Zealand Minister of Customs asked the Tariff and Development Board to undertake inquiries into the goods listed in the attached Schedules with the objective of providing Government with a basis for restructuring and updating the tariff to establish, where possible, adequate rates of duty protection on the goods involved.

For the purpose of taking evidence the Board will hold public hearings commencing at the times and on the dates shown below in the Hearing Room, Eighth Floor, Cumberland House, Upper Willis Street, Wellington.

Goods	Time and date of public hearing	Closing date for receipt of representations	Tariff provisions items under reference
Rubber tyring, tyres, etc. of ex tariff heading 40.08 and tariff heading 40.11	10.30 a.m. February 12, 1974	January 22, 1974	Schedule A
Wadding and articles of wadding of ex tariff heading 59.01 and sanitary towels of ex tariff headings 48.21 and 62.05	10.30 a.m. February 19, 1974	January 29, 1974	Schedule B
Unworked drawn or blown glass (including flashed glass), in rectangles, of tariff heading 70.05	10.30 a.m. February 26, 1974	February 5, 1974	Schedule C
Pumps for liquids, etc., compressors etc. of ex tariff headings 84.10 and 84.11	10.30 a.m. March 5, 1974	February 5, 1974	Schedule D
Pipe organs, electro-magnetic musical instruments, etc. of ex tariff headings 92.03 and 92.07	10.30 a.m. March 12, 1974	February 12, 1974	Schedule E
Tube and pipe fittings of iron or steel of tariff heading 73.20	10.30 a.m. March 19, 1974	February 19, 1974	Schedule F

Parties intending to make representations or requests about appropriate rates of customs duty are asked to take into account the statement of May 7, 1973, by the Minister of Overseas Trade on the phasing out of British preferences from the New Zealand tariff, the statement of May 7, 1973, by the Minister of Trade and Industry on the interim New Zealand-Australia Trade Agreement 1973 and the statement of July 27, 1973, by the Minister of Overseas Trade on the New Zealand-Canada Trade Agreement 1973. Copies of these statements can be obtained from the Tariff and Development Board. In a letter dated April 6, 1973, the Minister of Trade and Industry indicated that, while Government had asked the Board to consider the question of a single tariff rate, for trade policy reasons the Board's recommendations on this aspect would not necessarily be made public for the time being.

The attention of interested parties is drawn to the fact that the Board may find it appropriate to comment upon and compare the relative merits of protection by means of tariff rates and import licensing when used jointly or separately.

Any person who intends to tender evidence should lodge, in typewritten form, 14 copies of public evidence and 12 copies of confidential evidence, to be presented under oath at the public hearing, at the Board's office no later than the dates shown above. 'Notes for the Guidance of Witnesses', which indicate the kind of information required and the manner in which it should be submitted to the Tariff and Development Board, can be seen at the Department of Trade and Industry, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London, EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469). Each statement of evidence will in general need to be presented under oath at the public inquiry by the person tendering it.

Any changes made are likely to remain in force for a considerable period; any exporters whose trade is likely to be affected are urged to consider seriously the desirability of submitting evidence at the forthcoming inquiry.

Firms proposing to give independent evidence through their agents in New Zealand or through the Director of the British Trade Association of New Zealand Inc. PO Box 11-363, Wellington, New Zealand (telegraphic address 'Transtrade', tel. Wellington 43-706), and requiring further information should approach the Commercial Relations and Exports Division. The BTANZ charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed and whether the trade association or firm is a member.

In any instance where no evidence is received in respect of any goods classified within a particular tariff item the Board may recommend that no protective rates of duty be applied to those goods.

Number	Description	Rates of duty BP	MFN	GEN
SCHEDULE A				
40.08	Plates, sheets, strip, rods and profile shapes, of unhardened vulcanised rubber:			
	Tyring:			
40.08.003	Exceeding 1½ in. in diameter per 100 lb	20%	..	20% plus $3.33
40.08.009	Other	20%	..	30%
40.11	Rubber tyres, tyre cases, interchangeable tyre treads, inner tubes and tyre flaps, for wheels of all kinds:			
	Pneumatic tyres, tyre cases, inner tubes; tyre flaps:			
	As may be approved by the Minister and under such conditions as he may prescribe:			
40.11.001	Tyres and tyre cases per 100 lb	Free	..	$5.83
40.11.002	Tubes per 100 lb	Free	..	$5.83
40.11.009	Flaps per 100 lb	Free	..	$5.83
	Other:			
	Tyres and tyre cases:			
40.11.011	Each weighing not more than 2½ lb per 100 lb	$20.00	$20.00 plus 20%	$20.00 plus 40%
40.11.019	Each weighing more than 2½ lb per 100 lb	$10.00	..	$15.83
	Tubes:			
40.11.021	Each weighing not more than 1 lb per 100 lb	$20.00	$20.00 plus 20%	$20.00 plus 40%
40.11.029	Each weighing more than 1 lb per 100 lb	$10.00	..	$15.83
40.11.039	Flaps per 100 lb	$10.00	..	$15.83
40.11.041	Interchangeable tyre treads per 100 lb	$10.00	..	$15.83
	Non-pneumatic tyres:			
40.11.051	Not exceeding 1½ in. in cross-sectional diameter	20%	40%	45%
40.11.059	Exceeding 1½ in. in cross-sectional diameter per 100 lb	20%	..	20% plus $3.33
SCHEDULE B				
48.21	Other articles of paper pulp, paper, paperboard or cellulose wadding:			
ex 48.21.039 59.01	Other articles, viz Sanitary towels Wadding and articles of wadding; textile flock and dust and mill neps:	32½%	50%	65%

Number	Description	Rates of duty BP	MFN	GEN
59.01.001	Wadding	Free	..	Free
	Articles of wadding:			
59.01.011	Sanitary towels and tampons	25%	45%	50%
59.01.019	Other	32½%	52½%	65%
62.05	Other made up textile articles (including dress patterns):			
62.05.039	Sanitary towels	25%	45%	50%
SCHEDULE C				
70.05.000	Unworked drawn or blown glass (including flashed glass), in rectangles	Free	10%	12½%
SCHEDULE D				
84.10	Pumps (including motor pumps and turbo pumps) for liquids, whether or not fitted with measuring devices; liquid elevators of bucket, chain, screw, band and similar kinds:			
84.10.001	Petrol vending pumps	27½%	50%	55%
84.10.002	Parts	27½%	50%	55%
84.10.003	Submersible pumps	Free	20%	25%
84.10.004	Parts	Free	20%	25%
84.10.009	Other	25%	..	60%
	can	35%		
84.11	Air pumps, vacuum pumps and air or gas compressors (including motor and turbo pumps and compressors, and free-piston generators gas turbines); fans, blowers and the like:			
	Fans and blowers:			
84.11.011	As may be determined by the Minister	25%*	45%*	60%*
84.11.019	Other	Free	20%	25%
84.11.028	Other kinds	25%	..	60%
	Can	35%		
SCHEDULE E				
92.03	Pipe and reed organs, including harmoniums and the like:			
92.03.001	Pipe organs	Free	..	Free
92.07	Electro-magnetic, electrostatic, electronic and similar musical instruments (for example, pianos, organs, accordions):			
92.07.001	Organs	Free	20%	45%
92.07.009	Other	Free	20%	45%
SCHEDULE F				
73.20	Tube and pipe fittings (for example, joints, elbows, unions and flanges), of iron or steel:			
73.20.001	Screwed	Free	20%	25%
	Unscrewed:			
	Cast iron:			
73.20.011	For rainwater and soil pipes	22½%	37½%	50%
	For other tubes and pipes:			
	Of a nominal internal diameter:			
73.20.021	Less than 4 in.	Free	20%	40%
73.20.022	4 in. but not exceeding 6 in.	22½%	37½%	45%
73.20.023	Exceeding 6 in. but not exceeding 12 in.	Free	20%	40%
73.20.029	Exceeding 12 in.	Free	20%	40%
73.20.039	Other	Free	20%	40%
	Other kinds, for tubes and pipes:			
	Of a nominal internal diameter:			
	Less than 4 in.:			
73.20.041	As may be determined by the Minister	22½%*	37½%*	45%*
73.20.049	Other	Free	20%	25%
73.20.051	4 in. but less than 9 in.	22½%	37½%	45%
73.20.059	9 in. and over	Free	20%	25%
73.20.069	Other	Free	20%	25%

To facilitate proceedings the Board will hear evidence on the goods of Schedule D in three stages:
Stage 1: Fans and blowers of Tariff items 84.11.011 and 84.11.019
Stage 2: Compressors etc. of Tariff item 84.11.028
Stage 3: Pumps etc. of ex Tariff heading 84.10.
Stage 2 will follow immediately after Stage 1 and Stage 3 immediately after Stage 2.

* Or such lower rate of duty as the Minister may in any case direct.

Ref. CRE 1222/73 **CRE ext. 5321**

TARIFF AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD REPORT—LIQUIDS, PASTES, SOLUTIONS, ETC: Copies of the New Zealand Tariff and Development Board report on liquids, pastes, solutions etc. (tariff nos. 39.03.111, 39.03.119, 39.05.031, 39.05.039 and 40.06.011) are available from Commercial Relations and Exports Division.
Ref. CRE 1222/73 **CRE ext. 5321**

United States

IMPORT DATA: *Trade and Industry* October 18 referred to proposals by the US Tariff Commission to require the collection of import data on a cif basis in addition to fob. Regulations have now been announced and will become effective on December 10.
CRE ext. 5397

Canada

TARIFF CHANGES: The following changes have been announced to the Canadian customs tariff:

New expiry dates

Tariff items 19825-1, 23245-1, 43891-1, 44554-1 and 93819-16 now expire February 28, 1974.

Tariff items 38005-1 and 92849-2 now expire June 30, 1974.

Tariff items 18115-1, 19255-1, 19260-1, 19731-1, 19830-1, 32636-1, 35120-1, 38240-1, 38245-1, 38250-1, 38255-1, 39006-1, 39715-1, 39810-1, 41445-1, 43872-1, 44505-1, 44720-1, 56140-1, 56945-1, 56950-1, 56955-1 now expire October 31, 1974.

Tariff items 17335-1, 18735-1, 35530-1, 38020-1, 38208-1, 42875-1, 42915-1, 43846-1, 43887-1, 44570-1, 44574-1, 44580-1, 46255-1, 52115-1, 52225-1, 56155-1, 56180-1, 56185-1, 61820-1, 86400-1, 93901-5 now expire October 31, 1975.

Tariff items 18740-1, 19755-1, 20220-1, 27215-1, 31405-1, 31410-1, 32633-1, 37310-1, 38260-1, 42709-1, 42765-1, 43865-1, 44551-1, 44552-1, 44568-1, 44569-1, 44572-1, 44650-1, 45135-1, 45140-1, 50071-1, 54220-1, 56135-1, 56315-1, 61210-1, 86000-1, 86200-1, 93819-14, 93903-83 now expire October 31, 1976.

Tariff item 93907-2 now expires October 31, 1977.

Amendments. Tariff items 35705-1, 41527-1, 56130-1, 93205-4 and 93902-85 have been revoked and the following substituted:

Item		British preferential	Most favoured nation	General
35705-1	Plates or sheets of pewter, not less than 24 in. in width, containing not less than 90 per cent by weight of tin, for use in the manufacture of pewter vessels and jewellery	Free	Free	40%
	Expires October 31, 1974			
41527-1	Arm and bed, rotating hook assemblies, zig-zag mechanism assemblies, and parts thereof, for use in the manufacture of sewing machine heads	Free	Free	25%
	Expires October 31, 1974			
56130-1	Yarns, wholly of man-made filaments, singles, 850 denier or coarser with not less than 4 twists per inch, or plied with a total denier of 1,000 or more, for use in the manufacture of weftless tape used in packaging goods	7½%	12½%	35%
	but not less than per pound		11 cts	20 cts
	Expires October 31, 1974			
93205-4	Phthalocyanine pigment dyestuffs, other than those conforming to 'Colour Index' designation C.I Pigment Blue 15, for use in Canadian manufactures	Free	Free	25%
	Expires October 31, 1974			
93902-85	Polyvinyl chloride film, whether or not metallised by vacuum coating, not more than .003 in. in thickness, such thickness to include coatings, for use in the manufacture of Christmas decorations	Free	Free	25%
	Expires February 28, 1974			

EDB ext. 455/456/457

Uruguay

IMPORT DUTY CONCESSIONS: Further to Decree 670/972 (see *Trade and Industry*, January 25, 1973) exempting various goods from the payment of customs duties and certain other import charges, Decree 813/973 extends exemptions until March 31, 1974, for the following goods:

Imports of raw sugar for refining, yerba mate (semi-processed), raw coffee beans, hessian, road-making machinery, pharmaceuticals and raw materials for their manufacture.

Imports of processed yerba mate will remain exempt from 50 per cent of these import duties and charges.

Concessions will only apply to these goods only if they are imported free of surcharge or with a surcharge not exceeding 10 per cent. **EDB ext. 474/476/7312**

Cotton textile imports from Mediterranean Associates of the EEC

UK arrangements for 1974

THE announcement in *Trade and Industry* of November 8 of the interim measures for 1974 for imports of woven cotton textiles did not cover the situation for the Mediterranean Associates of the EEC.

Details of the 1974 quotas for eight of these countries are set out in the accompanying table.

Since 1974 will be the last year in which cotton textile imports from these countries will be subject to quantitative restrictions, it has been decided to relax the categorisation of the quotas. The only limitation within the quotas will be that the maximum quantity of made-up goods of all kinds that may be shipped is 35 per cent of the total; except in the case of Malta where the quota will have no sub-limits.

As before, imports into the UK will continue to be measured in square yards; the figures for metric tonnes are included to align with EEC practice. The authorities in these countries have been informed of the quota levels, licensing arrangements will remain as at present.

Inquiries regarding this notice should be made to DTI, Chemicals and Textiles Division, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU, tel: 01-834 4422, ext. 715 or 711.

	Metric tonnes	Square yard equivalent
Turkey	368	3,697,584
Greece	125	817,933
Cyprus	125	815,533
Malta	768	5,324,880
Spain	2,289	14,785,348
Tunisia	125	815,533
Morocco	125	815,533
Lebanon	125	815,533

EEC information—Inquiry points at Customs and Excise headquarters

General inquiries on EEC matters which are the concern of HM Customs and Excise may be made to the following telephone extensions:

HM Customs and Excise, King's Beam House, 39-41 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE Tel: 01-626 1515

		Extn.
Community Transit	International Customs Division D —Branch 1	
	traders A-K	2263
	traders L-Z	2561
European Communities—general inquiries	International Customs Division D —Branch 4	3055
EEC Free Trade Agreements with EFTA countries	International Customs Division E —Branch 4	2385/2165
EEC Mediterranean Agreements, except Greece and Turkey, Anglo-Danish free trade agreement	International Customs Division E —Branch 4	2165
EEC Mediterranean Agreements, Greece and Turkey	International Customs Division D —Branch 2	2561
Anglo-Irish Free Trade Agreement, Channel Islands, Isle of Man	International Customs Division E —Branch 4	2504
Compensatory levies	International Customs Division G —Branch 3	2343/2307
Copies of articles on customs preferences, public notices and customs forms on EEC matters	General Services Division—Unit 4	3079/2069

New EC legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is now published in English and copies may be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as exports are concerned, is available from Department of Trade and Industry, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY: The texts of the following Regulations and proposed Directives which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*. It should be noted that the texts of the Directives when finally approved may differ from the draft texts referred to below.

General. Regulation (EEC) 2958/73 on the exchange rate applied in agriculture for the Italian lira. (*Official Journal* L303, November 1, 1973)

Regulation (EEC) 2996/73 amending Regulation (EEC) 2958/73 on the exchange rate applied in agriculture for the Italian lira. (*Official Journal* L305, November 1, 1973)

Decision 73/334/EEC supplementing Decision 68/183EEC authorising certain management measures to be taken within the framework of the common organisation of agricultural markets. (*Official Journal* L308, November 8, 1973)

Seeds, live plants and products of the flower growing industry. Proposal for a Directive modifying Directive 66/400/EEC concerning the marketing of beet seed, of seed of fodder plants, of cereal seed and of seed potatoes, Directive 69/208/EEC concerning the marketing of seed of oil and fibre plants, and Directives 70/457/EEC and 70/458/EEC concerning the marketing of vegetable seed and the common catalogue of varieties of species of agricultural plants. (*Official Journal* C90, October 26, 1973)

Proposal for a Directive modifying Directive 68/193/EEC concerning the marketing of vegetative propagation material of the vine. (*Official Journal* C90, October 26, 1973)

Proposal for a Directive amending Directive 66/404/EEC on the marketing of forest reproductive material. (*Official Journal* C90, October 26, 1973)

Processed agricultural products. Regulation (EEC) 2997/73 concerning the rate of conversion to be applied to the Italian lira to goods covered by Regulation (EEC) 1059/69. (*Official Journal* L305, November 1, 1973)

Wine. Regulation (EEC) 3011/73 concerning the private storage subsidy for the R III type of table wine. (*Official Journal* L307, November 7, 1973)

Exports to EFTA countries—claims for preferential tariffs

BRITISH exporters should note that claims for preferential tariff treatment for goods exported to the EFTA countries (Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland) must be supported by the correct documentation prescribed in the Free Trade Agreements concluded between these countries and the enlarged EEC. *In no circumstances should EFTA forms and declarations be used.*

Details of documentation and procedure are set out in Customs Notice 810 which may be obtained free of charge from any United Kingdom custom house or office of a Collector of Customs and Excise, or from the Secretary, HM Customs and Excise, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE, to whom inquiries should be addressed (tel. 01-626 1515 ext. 2142/2385/2504).

Sugar. Regulation (EEC) 2959/73 providing for certain short-term economic measures for sugar in Italy following developments in the monetary situation. (*Official Journal* L303, November 1, 1973)

Regulation (EEC) 2993/73 on certain measures to be taken following the conjunctural measures taken by Italy in the sugar sector. (*Official Journal* L303, November 1, 1973)

Pigmeat. Regulation (EEC) 2991/73 on detailed rules for the application of Article 4b of Regulation (EEC) 974/71 to pigmeat. (*Official Journal* L303, November 1, 1973)

Animal health. Decision 73/328/EEC determining the types of vaccine to be supplied to the Community in respect of control measures against exotic foot-and-mouth disease. (*Official Journal* L308, November 8, 1973)

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 2940/73 amending Regulation (EEC) 756/70 on granting aid for skimmed milk processed into casein and caseinates. (*Official Journal* L301, October 30, 1973)

Corrigendum to Regulation (EEC) 677/73 published in the *Official Journal* L65, March 10, 1973 amending Regulation (EEC) 1259/72 on the disposal of butter at reduced price to certain Community processing undertakings. (*Official Journal* L306, November 6, 1973)

Rice. Regulation (EEC) 2492/73 on detailed rules for the application of Regulation (EEC) 2412/73 concerning imports of rice from Egypt. (*Official Journal* L302, October 31, 1973)

UNCTAD GENERALISED PREFERENCES SYSTEM: *Trade and Industry*, February 15, 1973 contained a notice about a number of Regulations setting up tariff quotas and opening tariff preferences for certain products originating in developing countries for the period January 1 to December 31, 1973. The texts of the following Regulations and notices reimposing the Common Customs Tariff Duties on certain of these products have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities.*

CCT no.	Description of goods	Country of origin	Full rate of duty payable from	Tariff quota or preference set up by Reg. No.
Regulation (EEC) 3001/73				
53.07	Yarn of combed sheep's or lambs' wool (worsted yarn), not put up for retail sale	Developing countries	November 9, 1973	2766/72
		(*Official Journal* L306, November 6, 1973)		
Regulation (EEC) 3020/73				
55.06	Cotton yarn, put up for retail sale	Yugoslavia	November 11, 1973	2172/73
Regulation (EEC) 3021/73				
67.02	Artificial flowers, foliage or fruit and parts thereof; articles made of artificial flowers, foliage or fruit	Hong Kong	November 11, 1973	2762/72
		(*Official Journal* L308, November 8, 1973)		
Notice				
55.05	Cotton yarn, not put up for retail sale: B. Other: II Not specified: Single, measuring per kg: More than 40,000 m and up to 80,000 m	Colombia	October 30, 1973	2628/73
		(*Official Journal* C91, October 30, 1973)		
Regulation (EEC) 2943/73				
ex 73.32 B II	Wood-screw	Developing countries	November 3, 1973	2762/72
		(*Official Journal* L302, October 31, 1973)		
Regulation (EEC) 3036/73				
ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' outer garments: Not of cotton	South Korea	November 12, 1973	2629/73
		(*Official Journal* L309, November 9, 1973)		

FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS. 'ORIGINATING PRODUCTS': The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L305, November 1, 1973, contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 2995/73 extending and amending Regulation (EEC) 984/73 on the definition of the concept of 'originating products' in trade with Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland.

Further information: Department of Trade and Industry, Tariff Division, Kingsgate House, 66/74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ (tel. 01-222 7877 exts. 5713/5750).

COMMUNITY TARIFF QUOTA. TEXTILE PRODUCTS: The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L309, November 9, 1973 contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 3025/73 on the opening, allocation and means of administration of a Community tariff quota for the treatment of certain textile products in Community outward processing traffic.

Further information: Department of Trade and Industry, Chemicals and Textiles Division, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU (tel. 01-834 2255, ext. 715).

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The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1971	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,404	9,223	2,129	2,087	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1968	95	97	97	87	87	439	269	85	60	−284	−659	375
1969	97	98	98	93	92	416	320	42	13	445	−143	588
1970	99	100	100	100	100	257	175	68	−38	692	−9	701
1971	100	103	101	92	101	19	−218	52	21	1,061	285	776
1972	102	109	102	83	111	−412	−498	28	22	83	−685	768
1971 1st qtr	98	100	100	96	97	114	10	14	−22	145	−52	197
2nd qtr	100	102	101	94	102	−103	−113	26	7	288	105	183
3rd qtr	101	103	101	92	105	−18	67	9	15	380	172	208
4th qtr	101	105	101	88	102	—	−47	3	21	248	60	188
1972 1st qtr	100	106	103	88	105	−136	−156	15	−9	73	−119	192
2nd qtr	102	108	102	84	110	−104	−145	−12	40	126	−50	176
3rd qtr	102	109	101	81	110	−87	−125	4	−8	−105	−284	179
4th qtr	104	111	102	81	118	−85	−72	22	−1	−11	−232	221
1973 1st qtr	108	114	109	87	123	248	168	18	62	−183	−363	180
2nd qtr	107	112	102	85	106	194	85	−14	152	−198 p	−396 p	198 p
% change latest 2 quarters: on prev. 2 quarters	+3.7	+2.7	+4.0	+6.8	+1.3							
on a year earlier	+5.9	+5.6	+3.3	+0.8	+7.4							

	Index of Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs					Labour			Trade§	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Index of retail prices		Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry		Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults	Exports	Imports
					Index‡	% increase on a year earlier	basic materials and fuel used‡	manufactured products: home sales‡		mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count	at current prices	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan 16, 1962		1970	1970	July 31, 1972				1963	1963
£m in base year			15,895	thousands						thousands		thousands	4,282	4,362
1969	99.9	99.6	97.3	82.3	131.8	5.4	95.0	93.4	71.2	531	2.3	200	165	165
1970	100.0	100.0	99.0	91.4	140.2	6.4	100.0	100.0	78.5	568	2.5	186	184	181
1971	100.5	99.7	100.0	108.5	153.4	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	737	3.2	129	205	195
1972	102.2	101.6	105.8	138.6	164.3	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	816	3.6	146	213	225
1971 3rd qtr	100.6	99.4	100.5	116	155.3	10.1	105.6	110.3	89.6	772	3.4	119	214	194
4th qtr	100.4	99.0	102.1	132	157.3	9.2	104.8	110.8	92.7	832	3.7	118	210	200
1972 1st qtr	98.0	98.4	102.1	124	159.7	8.0	105.6	112.1	95.9	870	3.8	124	204	211
2nd qtr	102.7	101.3	104.6	147	162.7	6.2	106.1	113.5	98.1	835	3.7	135	216	216
3rd qtr	102.4	101.6	107.2	139	165.4	6.5	109.4	115.6	102.2	809	3.6	146	192	215
4th qtr	105.7	105.3	109.5	144	169.4	7.7	115.6	118.0	107.8	754	3.3	176	242	253
1973 1st qtr	109.8	109.8	112.0	150	172.4	8.0	126.0	119.5	108.8	665	2.9	229	246	275
2nd qtr	110.3	110.4	108.2	134	177.9	9.3	133.4	120.1	112.6	602	2.6	292	263	294
3rd qtr	111.4	112.2	110.7	141			149.9 p	124.0 p	118.4	563	2.5	332	285	329
1972 Dec	106.1	105.8	111.2	139	170.2	7.7	118.7	118.5	108.4	727	3.2	188	235	255
1973 Jan	107.9	106.9	109.4	147	171.3	7.7	122.7	119.0	108.4	703	3.1	201	243	261
Feb	110.3	110.7	111.8	153	172.4	7.9	126.0	119.6	108.9	660	2.9	238	252	269
Mar	111.2	111.8	114.2	149	173.4	8.2	129.4	120.0	109.5	630	2.8	264	243	295
Apr	109.7	109.5	107.1	137	176.7	9.2	130.5	118.8•	112.3	617	2.7	275	267	274
May	110.1	109.4	106.7	132	178.0	9.5	132.4	120.1	113.2	599	2.6	296	252	306
June	111.0	112.2	110.3	133	178.9	9.3	137.2	121.3	115.6	590	2.6	307	271	303
July	111.3	111.7	110.8	145	179.7	9.4	145.1	122.7	115.9	578	2.5	325	275	314
Aug	111.1	111.2	111.0	151	180.2	8.9	152.4	124.1	119.5	565	2.5	327	284	332
Sept	111.9	112.8	110.4	127	181.8	9.3	153.8 p	126.0 p	119.7	545	2.4	345	298	341
Oct					185.4	9.9	160.3 p	128.1 p		515 p	2.3	362 p	282 p	359 p
% change latest 3 months: on prev. 3 months	+1.1	+1.6	+2.3	+5.5	+2.0		+12.4	+3.3	+4.1	−8.0		+11.5	+8.3	+10.6
on a year earlier	+8.9	+10.4	+3.3	+1.3	+9.3		+37.1	+8.7	+14.4	−32.3		+125.0	+39.8	+46.2

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. • After April, affected by changes due to VAT

Index of industrial production in September

THE provisional estimate index of production for September 1973, prepared by the Central Statistical Office, is 111.9 (seasonally adjusted). For manufacturing industry alone the figure is 112.8.

For the three months July to September 1973, it is provisionally estimated that production as a whole was 1.1 per cent higher than the figures for the preceding three months, April 1973 to June 1973; for manufacturing industry alone there was an increase of 1.6 per cent.

The average index numbers of the latest three months and the previous three months shown at the foot of the table give a general guide to the changes which have taken place in the output of the major groups in recent months.

INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

Seasonally adjusted — 1970 = 100

	Total all industries	Mining and quarrying	Manufacturing industries												
			Total	Food, drink and tobacco					Engineering and allied industries						
				Total	Food	Drink and tobacco	Coal and petroleum products	Chemicals and allied industries	Total	Mechanical engineering	Instrument engineering	Electrical engineering	Shipbuilding and marine engineering	Total vehicles	Metal goods, n.e.s.
Weights	1,000	37	745	84	52	32	7	58	319	100	15	67	16	73	48
1968	97.2	111.4	95.8	96.5	98.9	92.7	84.0	89.8	94.7	92.0	86.0	90.8	95.1	101.1	98.3
1969	99.9	104.9	99.6	99.4	101.0	96.8	92.1	95.1	99.9	97.0	92.4	97.2	94.8	106.3	104.1
1970	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1971	100.5	99.7	99.7	101.5	101.4	101.7	103.4	101.9	99.3	100.1	100.9	102.5	96.5	99.5	93.3
1972	102.2	84.0	101.6	105.7	105.4	106.3	102.6	107.8	98.6	92.6	95.0	111.0	91.8	100.6	94.2
1971 1st qtr.	100.2	102.5	100.0	101.5					99.4						
2nd qtr.	100.9	102.9	100.3	101.7					100.7						
3rd qtr.	100.6	101.4	99.4	101.3					99.4						
4th qtr.	100.4	92.0	99.0	101.7					97.9						
1972 1st qtr.	98.0	45.4	98.4	105.6	104.0	108.4	97.4	104.1	96.5	94.8	93.6	108.1	90.4	93.9	89.1
2nd qtr.	102.7	95.7	101.3	105.6	105.1	106.5	100.9	108.1	98.1	93.6	93.8	108.2	93.0	99.4	94.2
3rd qtr.	102.4	95.0	101.6	105.8	105.9	105.6	106.7	106.8	98.1	90.4	96.8	109.4	91.5	102.1	96.7
4th qtr.	105.7	99.7	105.3	105.8	106.6	104.5	105.6	112.0	101.8	91.6	95.9	118.4	92.1	107.2	96.8
1973 1st qtr.	109.8	97.7	109.8	108.7	105.8	111.1	107.3	116.3	107.8	101.7	108.0	130.6	93.9	102.7	99.7
2nd qtr.	110.3	94.1	110.4	108.2	105.7	112.3	107.4	117.4	110.8	107.4	120.1	136.0	93.9	98.6	104.2
3rd qtr.	111.4	91.6	112.2	105.8	102.5	112.9	114.6	122.1	115.1	110.0	123.5	142.3	95.8	106.4	105.0
1973 February	110.3	97	110.7	112	110	107	103	115	109	102	108	131	93	105	101
March	111.2	97	111.8	107	107	108	107	118	110	105	112	133	95	103	101
April	109.7	94	109.5	107	104	111	103	114	109	106	116	135	94	98	104
May	110.1	95	109.4	110	107	114	106	119	110	108	119	136	94	96	103
June	111.0	93	112.2	108	106	112	114	119	113	109	122	137	94	101	106
July	111.3	93	111.7	106	101	115	113	122	114	109	120	139	96	105	109
Aug	111.1	90	112.0	108	104	114	120	121	115	110	123	143	96	109	102
Sep	111.9	92	112.8	104	101	109	111	123	116	112	128	145	96	106	105
Apr.-June (av.)	110.3	94	110.4	108	106	112	108	117	111	108	119	136	94	98	104
July-Sep. (av.)	111.4	92	112.2	106	102	113	115	122	115	110	124	142	96	107	105

	Manufacturing industries (continued)												Construction	Gas, electricity and water
	Metal manufacture			Textiles, leather and clothing				Bricks, pottery, glass, etc.						
	Total	Ferrous	Non-ferrous	Total	Textiles	Leather, leather goods and fur	Clothing and footwear	Total	Bricks, cement, etc.	Pottery and glass	Timber, furniture, etc.	Paper, printing and publishing	Other manufacturing industries		
Weights	57	43	14	76	49	3	24	27	17	10	22	64	31	146	72
1968	97.5	96.8	99.7	98.9	97.1	104.4	101.8	102.2	103.9	99.7	106.5	96.2	95.7	103.5	91.6
1969	100.8	101.2	99.7	100.4	100.2	103.0	100.4	103.7	102.7	105.2	99.7	99.3	99.5	102.1	96.2
1970	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1971	90.4	87.6	99.0	102.3	100.8	102.8	105.4	108.4	107.5	109.8	103.0	97.3	100.6	102.8	103.9
1972	88.8	87.0	94.2	104.5	102.7	106.9	107.9	115.5	115.9	114.9	113.0	102.4	104.4	105.2	111.1
1971 1st qtr.	94.8			102.5										100.9	99.2
2nd qtr.	92.0			102.5										102.1	102.5
3rd qtr.	89.3			102.2										103.3	105.8
4th qtr.	85.0			102.2										105.3	108.0
1972 1st qtr.	81.3	79.0	88.7	100.1	96.5	103.8	107.0	106.6	108.5	103.5	110.9	98.8	97.6	106.9	102.9
2nd qtr.	88.5	87.9	90.3	104.0	102.6	104.9	106.9	116.7	116.2	117.6	113.9	101.3	103.1	107.7	111.6
3rd qtr.	89.8	88.4	94.5	105.7	104.6	106.6	107.7	113.9	114.7	112.7	111.6	103.1	106.1	101.7	115.1
4th qtr.	95.4	92.9	103.4	108.3	107.2	112.1	109.9	124.7	124.1	125.7	115.8	106.4	110.6	104.6	114.8
1973 1st qtr.	97.1	94.7	104.9	110.4	109.4	112.2	112.2	130.6	136.8	120.9	136.5	108.9	108.0	110.3	115.0
2nd qtr.	92.8	89.6	102.4	111.7	109.6	111.4	116.2	123.2	125.4	119.8	126.9	109.8	107.0	108.4	121.2
3rd qtr.	94.8	92.5	101.9	107.8	105.3	112.0	112.5	119.0	121.9	114.4	128.9	110.6	108.7		119.6
1973 February	97	94	106	113	110	112	119	130	135	122	137	110	108		113
March	102	101	105	114	115	112	112	133	138	127	145	111	108		114
April	94	90	106	112	109	112	117	126	127	124	127	110	108		122
May	87	85	94	109	106	111	115	121	126	112	125	109	106		129
June	97	94	107	115	114	111	116	124	123	124	129	111	107		113
July	93	92	98	106	103	111	112	121	124	118	130	111	110		122
Aug	93	90	99	108	105	112	113	120	123	115	124	111	109		117
Sep	99	96	108	110	108	113	114	116	119	110	133	110	107		119
Apr.-June (av.)	93	90	102	112	110	111	116	124	125	120	127	110	107		121
July-Sep. (av.)	95	93	102	108	105	112	113	119	122	114	129	111	109		119

Monthly report on the economic situation

The following report on the economic situation, prepared by HM Treasury, will be published in 'Economic Trends' for November at the end of the month. Unless otherwise stated, this report is based on seasonally-adjusted data.

SYMBOLS USED IN ALL STATISTICAL TABLES

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half the final digit shown	* five week period
p provisional	ø fifty-three week period

Recent developments in aggregate demand and activity

THE latest evidence continues to suggest a substantial moderation of the growth of demand and output from the exceptional rate of the early months of 1973. The volume of consumers' expenditure is estimated to have been no higher in the third quarter than in the first half-year as a whole. The volume of exports showed a further strong rise of 3 per cent in the third quarter, however. On the output side, industrial production increased by about 1 per cent in the third quarter, a considerably lower rate of increase than at the turn of the year. There was a larger fall in unemployment in September and October than in other recent months but in part this may reflect the much smaller-than-usual number of school-leavers coming on to the market.

The first preliminary estimate of consumers' expenditure in the third quarter of 1973, which is based on less complete information than usual, indicates a rise in volume of 1 per cent compared with its depressed second quarter level to be about 3½ per cent higher than a year earlier. The volume of retail sales, which dropped back slightly in September, averaged about ½ per cent higher in the third quarter than in the first half of the year; sales by food shops were 1 per cent higher, while sales by non-food shops were virtually unchanged, Preliminary indications suggest that retail sales in October may have been below the September level. New car registrations also fell back in September from their high level of the previous two months, and in the third quarter as a whole were little different from the average for the first half. Preliminary estimates suggest that registrations in October were again well below the July/August level.

There was a small further increase in the index of industrial production in September, giving a rise of 1 per cent between the second and third quarters. The whole of this increase was in manufacturing production, which rose by 1½ per cent in the third quarter with large increases in the chemical, engineering and metal manufacturing industries partly offset by a small fall in other manufacturing output. Between the third quarters of 1972 and 1973 the all-industries index increased by 8¾ per cent and manufacturing production by 10½ per cent, but the rate of increase has slowed down considerably in recent months.

In the latest CBI Industrial Trends Survey, which was carried out during the first half of October, the balance of firms expecting to increase their investment in plant and machinery and in buildings over the coming year is again historically very high. The positive balance of firms expecting further increases in the value of new export orders and deliveries in the coming months also continues very high. A record number of respondents cited shortages of skilled labour and materials as factors likely to restrict output: on the other hand, the proportion of firms working below full capacity has increased somewhat since the previous survey.

In October the current account is estimated to have been in deficit by about £233 million. The deficit on trade in goods was £298 million and the balance on services and other current transactions is estimated to have been running at a monthly surplus of about £65 million. The value of exports in October was £1,008 million on a balance of payments basis. About half the reduction of £60 million compared with September is accounted for by lower exports of precious stones, which are probably partly affected by the Middle East crisis. In the three months August to October exports were 8 per cent higher than in the previous three months. Imports were £1,306 million in October (but industrial action prevented imports through Heathrow in the last two weeks of the month being included in the figures). The increase of £67 million in October was much more than accounted for by higher imports of fuels and precious stones and higher deliveries of ships constructed abroad for UK customers. In the three months August to October the average monthly deficit on visible trade was £224 million compared with £168 million in the previous three months. The terms of trade worsened by 6 per cent between the second and third quarters (the latest period for which information is available), with import unit values rising by nearly 10 per cent and export unit values by over 3 per cent.

Labour market

The seasonally-adjusted total of unemployed excluding school-leavers and adult students fell by 30,000 between the September and October counts (the latter was on October 8) to stand at 515,000 or 2.3 per cent of all employees. The fall in unemployment was larger in September and October than in other recent months. In part this may be due to the raising of the school-leaving age, and in addition there may have been an effect from the return of students to schools and colleges. The number of unfilled adult vacancies increased by about 16,000 in October, much the same as the average for the previous six months.

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The number of employees in total rose by 2 per cent in the 12 months to March. The numbers employed in the production industries have shown some increase in recent months, though still at a slow rate; in the three months to August (the latest month available) there was an estimated rise of ¼ per cent over the previous three months and about 1 per cent compared with a year earlier. The numbers employed in manufacturing industry alone have been rising at a broadly similar rate. Overtime working in manufacturing industry has been increasing slowly this year and in August was 18 per cent higher than a year earlier, although it was still well below the 1970 level.

Prices and incomes

The General Index of Retail Prices (not seasonally adjusted) increased by 0.9 per cent in September following a relatively small rise of 0.3 per cent in August. Non-food prices rose at much the same rate in September as in other recent months but food prices, which had fallen marginally in August as a result of seasonal falls in fruit and vegetable prices, rose by some 2 per cent in September. Prices of seasonal foods increased on average by about 4 per cent following a fall of 8½ per cent in August.

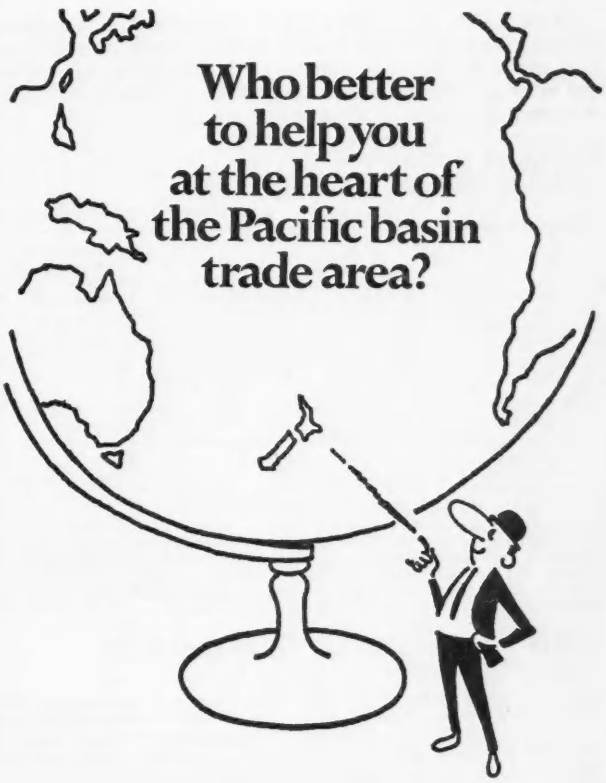
Wholesale prices of home sales of manufactured products (not seasonally adjusted) increased by just over 1½ per cent in October, following a similar increase (on revised figures) in September. The faster rise in September and October compared with earlier months is particularly marked in the engineering industries. The index of prices of basic materials and fuels purchased by manufacturing industry increased by over 4 per cent in October, mainly reflecting the increase in oil prices announced by the Middle East oil producers.

The latest figures for average earnings relate to August, when the seasonally adjusted index was almost unchanged despite the substantial rise in wage rates (not seasonally adjusted) during that month. The seasonal adjustment to the earnings figures is particularly difficult in August because of the timing of the late Summer Bank Holiday. In addition, the rise in wage rates in August was mainly due to the implementation of the second stage of the engineering industry agreement, which raised minimum time rates but was not expected to be fully reflected in earnings because most workers are already above these minimum rates. During September there was virtually no change in the index of hourly wage rates.

Financial developments

In the month to mid-September, there was a further divergence between the changes in the narrower definition of money supply (M1) and in the broader definition (M3). The changes were −2 per cent and +2½ per cent respectively. Over the three months to September there has been no significant increase in M1, while M3 has risen by 9 per cent. The latter figure is likely to exaggerate the underlying trend, since it reflects to a greater extent than M1 the re-emergence of arbitrage transactions in August (which were reversed only to a limited extent in September). The banks' combined reserve ratio in mid-October was unchanged from the previous month at 13.8 per cent. Following the decline in the US Treasury Bill rate and probably also reflecting improved confidence in sterling, interest rates eased back somewhat during October and the Bank of England's minimum lending rate fell by ¼ per cent to 11¼ per cent on October 19. However, on November 13 the Bank of England raised their minimum lending rate from 11¼ per cent to 13 per cent, suspending the formula by which the rate is normally calculated as provided for in the Banks' Notice of October 9, 1972. The Bank of England also announced a call for a further 2 per cent Special Deposits from the banks and finance houses. The additional deposits are to be made as to ½ per cent on November 28, 1973, ½ per cent on December 12, 1973, ½ per cent on December 27, 1973 and ½ per cent on January 2, 1974. This action was designed to curtail the demand for credit: the latest banking figures had shown a further large increase in lending.

The United Kingdom reserves rose by $379 million during October after accruals of foreign currency borrowing by the public sector totalling $357 million. They now stand at $6,761 million. The effective depreciation of sterling compared with Smithsonian exchange rates fluctuated around 19½ per cent during the first half of October but then improved somewhat to close the month at 18½ per cent. At the close on November 12 the effective depreciation was just over 17 per cent.



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UK OVERSEAS TRADE

The October current account of balance of payments

In October 1973, the current account is estimated to have been in deficit by about £233 million. The deficit on trade in goods was £298 million**, seasonally adjusted, and the balance on services and other current transactions is estimated to have been running at a monthly surplus of about £65 million.

CURRENT ACCOUNT: THREE MONTHLY ANALYSIS

£ million per month seasonally adjusted

	Current balance	Visible balance: trade in goods	Invisible balance: services and other transactions (see Note 1(h))
1972 1st quarter	+25	−39	+64
2nd quarter	+42	−17	+59
3rd quarter	−35	−95	+60
4th quarter	−3	−77	+74
1973 1st quarter	−61	−121	+60
2nd quarter	−66	−132	+66
May-July	−102	−168	+66*
June-Aug	− 97	−162	+65*
July-Sept	−112	−177	+65*
Aug-Oct	−159	−224**	+65*

* These figures are projections and are subject to revision as the relevant statistical information becomes available. Past experience suggests that they are unlikely to differ by more than £8 million a month from the first published quarterly estimates.
** The import figures for October (but not the export figures) were affected by industrial action at London Airport—see Section (c) below.

TABLE 1. VISIBLE TRADE ON BALANCE OF PAYMENTS BASIS

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million per month

	Exports (fob)	Imports (fob)	Visible balance
1971	733	709	+ 24
1972	761	818	− 57
1971 1st quarter	669	686	− 17
2nd quarter	753	718	+ 35
3rd quarter	762	705	+ 57
4th quarter	748	728	+ 20
1972 1st quarter	728	767	− 39
2nd quarter	769	786	− 17
3rd quarter	686	781	− 95
4th quarter	862	939	− 77
1973 1st quarter	878	999	−121
2nd quarter	937	1,069	−132
3rd quarter p	1,019	1,195	−176
May	900	1,111	−211
June	966	1,101	−135
July	982	1,140	−158
August	1,013	1,206	−193
September r	1,062	1,239	−177
October p	1,008	1,306	−298
May-July	949	1,117	−168
Aug-Oct p	1,027	1,251	−224

p Provisional estimates.
r Revised estimates.

TABLE 1A. Three-monthly averages***

	Exports (fob)	Imports (fob)	Visible balance
1972 November	857	951	− 94
December	862	939	− 77
1973 January	853	940	− 87
February	868	950	− 82
March	878	999	−121
April	904	1,015	−111
May	904	1,060	−156
June	937	1,069	−132
July	949	1,117	−168
August	987	1,149	−162
September	1,019	1,195	−176
October	1,027	1,251	−224

*** Average of month shown and two preceding months (see Note 1(d)).

Visible trade

(a) Summary. In October there was a deficit on visible trade of £298 million, seasonally adjusted; the value of exports was £1,008 million and the value of imports was £1,306 million: the import figures for October (but not the export figures) were affected by industrial action at London Airport—see (c) below.

In the three months August to October, the average monthly deficit on visible trade was £224 million a month compared with £168 million a month in the previous three months. The terms of trade have continued to move against the UK. Between the second and third quarters of the year (the latest period for which information is available), the terms of trade worsened by 6 per cent, the

TABLE 2. EXPORTS

Seasonally adjusted values § — £ million per month

	Overseas trade statistics basis (fob)	Coverage adjustments	Net allowance for factors affecting recording †	Balance of payments basis (fob)
1971	765	−41	+ 9	733
1972	812	−51	—	761
1971 1st quarter	685	−30	+14	669
2nd quarter	779	−41	+15	753
3rd quarter	798	−46	+10	762
4th quarter	799	−46	− 5	748
1972 1st quarter	775	−48	—	728
2nd quarter	818	−49	—	769
3rd quarter	735	−49	—	686
4th quarter	921	−59	—	862
1973 1st quarter	945	−68	—	878
2nd quarter	1,010	−73	—	937
3rd quarter p	1,085	−66	—	1,019
May	972	−72	—	900
June	1,041	−75	—	966
July	1,044	−62	—	982
August	1,074	−61	—	1,013
September r	1,136	−74	—	1,062
October p	1,093	−85	—	1,008
May-July	1,019	−70	—	949
Aug-Oct p	1,101	−73	—	1,027

§ Components and totals are rounded independently.
† See Note 1(e).
p Provisional estimates.
r Revised estimates.

TABLE 3. IMPORTS

Seasonally adjusted values § — £ million per month

	Overseas Trade Statistics basis (cif)	Adjustments to balance of payments basis: Freight insurance and other valuation adjustments	Adjustments to balance of payments basis: Coverage adjustments ‡	Balance of payments basis (fob)
1971	818	− 83	−26	709
1972	930	− 87	−24	818
1971 1st quarter	792	− 85	−21	686
2nd quarter	820	− 84	−18	718
3rd quarter	816	− 82	−30	705
4th quarter	844	− 81	−35	728
1972 1st quarter	879	− 82	−30	767
2nd quarter	892	− 87	−19	786
3rd quarter	890	− 83	−27	781
4th quarter	1,057	− 95	−23	939
1973 1st quarter	1,134	−102	−33	999
2nd quarter	1,236	−114	−52	1,069
3rd quarter p	1,370	−127	−47	1,195
May	1,280	−115	−54	1,111
June	1,271	−118	−52	1,101
July	1,290	−115	−35	1,140
August	1,392	−139	−47	1,206
September	1,428	−129	−60	1,239
October p	1,478	−141	−31	1,306
May-July	1,280	−116	−47	1,117
Aug-Oct p	1,432	−136	−46	1,251

§ Components and totals are rounded independently.
p Provisional estimates.
‡ Including adjustments for arrivals of and payments for United States military aircraft, etc. up to the end of 1972.

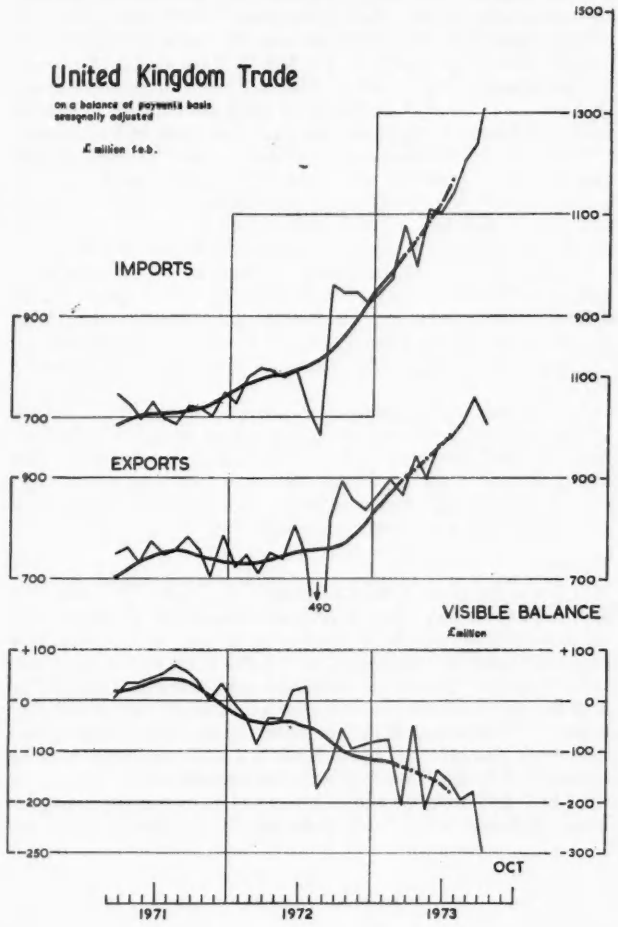
import unit value index rising by nearly 10 per cent and the export unit value index by over 3 per cent.

(b) Exports. The value of exports in October was £1,008 million seasonally adjusted on a balance of payments basis.

In the three months August to October exports averaged £1,027 million per month, 8 per cent higher than in the previous three months and 34 per cent higher at an annual rate than the average in the second half of last year. Deliveries to Western Europe increased by 13 per cent between May/July and August/October, with exports to the EEC rising by 9 per cent, while shipments to the sterling area outside Europe increased by 4 per cent. Exports to North America fell by 2 per cent but those to all other markets in aggregate increased by 8 per cent.

Exports of manufactured goods were 7 per cent higher in the three monthly period August to October compared to the previous three months while deliveries of non-manufactured goods rose by 17 per cent. Among the main categories of manufactured goods, exports of machinery and transport equipment rose by 7 per cent with deliveries of road motor vehicles 4 per cent higher. There was an increase in the exports of chemicals of 7 per cent and metals and

(*continued on next page*)



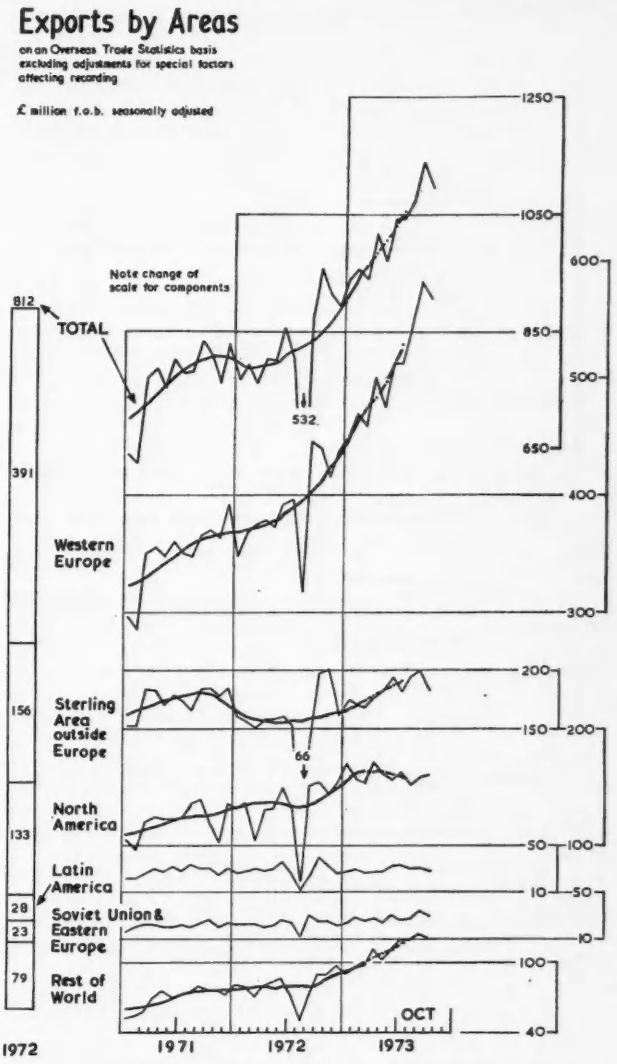


TABLE 4. Recorded values
Overseas trade statistics basis

£ million per month

		Exports fob ††	Imports cif ‡
1971	1st quarter	673.4	811.3
	2nd quarter	794.9	829.3
	3rd quarter	767.4	790.0
	4th quarter	822.9	847.3
1972	1st quarter	770.7	905.7
	2nd quarter	843.9	910.6
	3rd quarter	683.3	850.0
	4th quarter	950.7	1,052.1
1973	1st quarter	942.6	1,189.6
	2nd quarter	1,024.9	1,240.8
	3rd quarter r	1,018.7	1,313.2
	August	1,034.4	1,349.9
	September r	960.4	1,299.4
	October p	1,192.5	1,605.2

†† No adjustment has been made in this table for special factors affecting the recording of exports (see Note 1(e)).
‡ Including arrivals of US military aircraft up to the end of 1972.
p Provisional estimates.
r Revised estimates.

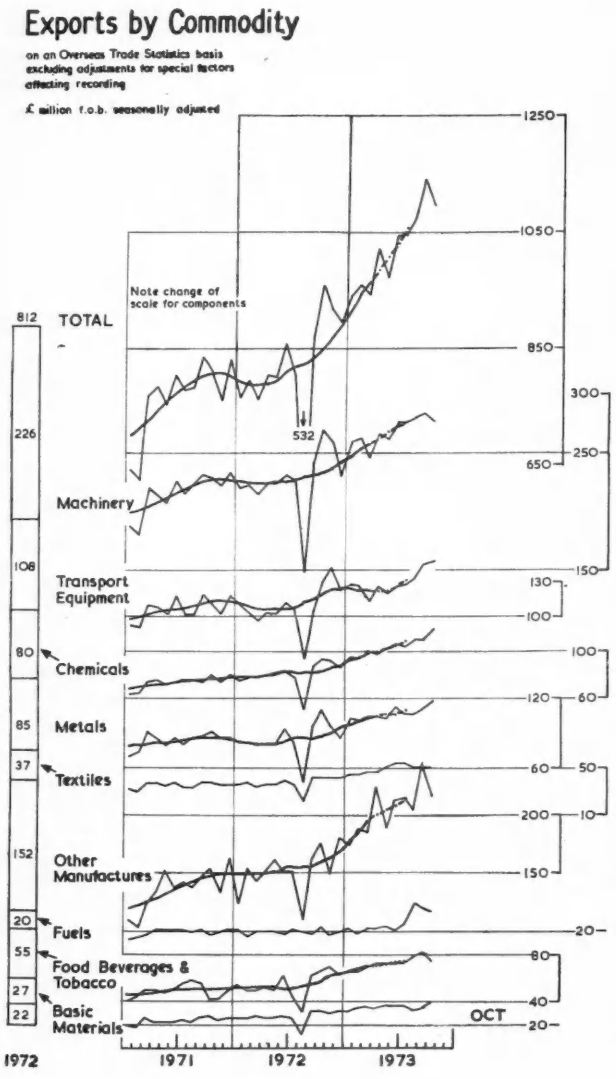
TABLE 5. EXPORTS: AREAS¶
Overseas trade statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob per month

		Total	Sterling area outside Europe	Western Europe inc. Irish Republic* Total*	EEC*	EFTA*	North America	Latin America	Soviet Union and Eastern Europe	Rest of world
1972		812	156	391	245	112	133	28	23	79
	4th qtr.	921	187	431	269	124	151	33	24	93
1973	1st qtr.	945	170	460	293	132	161	29	26	95
	2nd qtr.	1,010	184	495	319	136	163	29	27	108
	3rd qtr.	1,085	191	547	355	149	157	31	29	122
	August	1,074	194	548	355	149	149	31	28	121
	Sept	1,136	201	582	371	167	158	31	34	124
	Oct p	1,093	183	569	351	174	161	28	30	120
May-July		1,019	185	500	328	131	160	31	27	111
Aug-Oct p		1,101	193	566	359	164	156	30	30	122

¶ See Note 1(b).
p Provisional estimates.
* See Note 1(g).

UK TRADE
continued



metal manufactures of 4 per cent; textile deliveries however fell by 4 per cent.

(c) Imports. The value of imports in October was £1,306 million, seasonally adjusted on a balance of payments basis. Industrial action from October 15 until the end of the month by Post Office staff at London Airport prevented the running of the computer on which import documents are normally processed. Special arrangements were introduced enabling imports to be cleared but details of these imports could not be processed by HM Customs and are therefore not included in the October figures. The October figures will be adjusted when the trade figures for November are announced.

The recorded increase in imports (£67 million) is more than accounted for by three special factors. First of all, imports of precious stones (largely diamonds)—most of which are subsequently exported—were much higher than usual. Their value was £31 million higher than in September and the value of exports £26 million lower (due partly to the Middle East crisis). Secondly, imports of fuels were £46 million higher. Thirdly, there was a sharp increase in the value of deliveries of ships constructed in foreign yards and delivered abroad for UK customers (£44 million higher).

The figures for the three months August to October show imports averaging £1,251 million a month, 12 per cent higher than the average in the preceding three months. Imports of food, beverages and tobacco and imports of fuels increased by 10 per cent and 24 per cent respectively between May/July and August/October.

Imports of industrial materials increased by 13 per cent while arrivals of finished manufactures rose by 9 per cent. Among finished manufactures, imports of road motor vehicles were 18 per cent higher in the three months ended October compared with the previous three months while shipments of machinery increased by 8 per cent.

Among the major sources of imports, those from Western Europe rose by 14 per cent in the latest three months with imports from the EEC increasing by 11 per cent. Imports from the United States rose by 1 per cent while deliveries from the sterling area outside Europe and the rest of the world in aggregate increased by 14 per cent and 12 per cent respectively.

Notes

1(a) Trade figures on a balance of payments basis. The seasonally adjusted import and export figures on a balance of payments basis are obtained by making various adjustments to the seasonally adjusted figures derived from those recorded in the monthly *Overseas Trade Statistics*. These adjustments are summarised in Tables 2 and 3 of this article. Some are valuation adjustments; the principal of these is the deduction from the import figure of freight and insurance costs. The other adjustments relate to coverage, either to bring in items not in the Trade Statistics (for example on the import side ships built and delivered abroad direct to UK owners) or to remove items which are in the Trade Statistics (mainly returned goods for

TABLE 6. EXPORTS: COMMODITY CLASSES¶ Overseas trade statistics basis

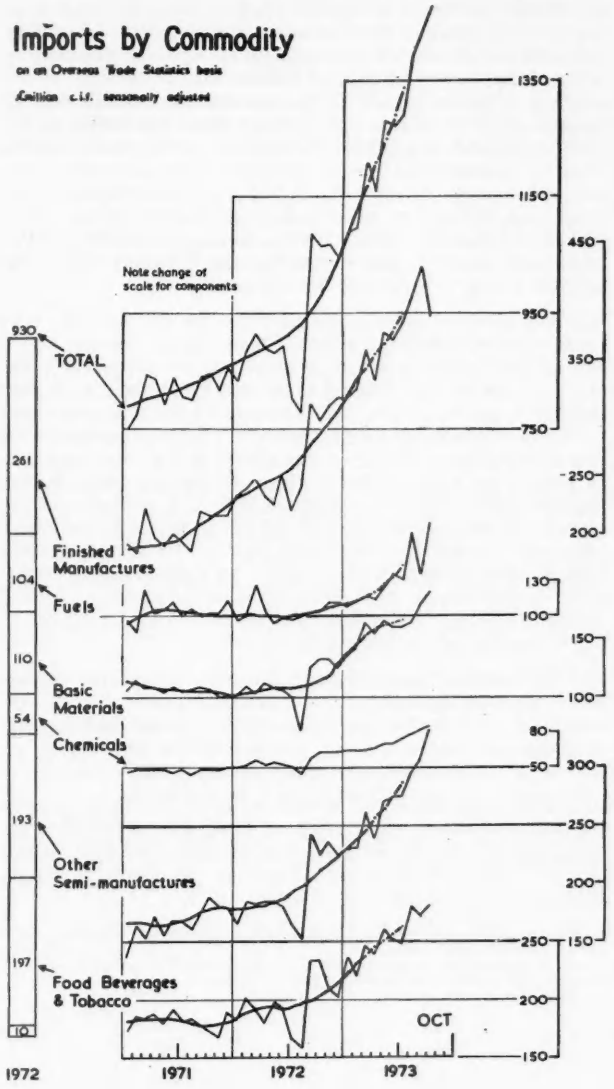
Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob per month

					Manufactures									
						Machinery and transport equipment								
		Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles	Other transport equipment	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures	Miscellaneous
1972		812	55	27	20	688	335	226	76	32	80	85	37	152	22
	4th quarter	921	67	31	21	786	384	254	94	37	91	97	42	169	22
1973	1st quarter	945	68	34	21	801	377	256	88	33	96	102	45	182	22
	2nd quarter	1,010	72	36	22	857	393	269	90	33	102	106	50	208	25
	3rd quarter	1,085	77	34	37	903	416	281	92	43	107	107	51	221	27
	August	1,074	78	33	44	885	414	280	87	50	110	105	49	204	30
	September	1,136	82	34	41	945	431	285	97	50	109	110	50	244	28
	October p	1,093	75	41	37	928	421	277	94	47	117	119	50	216	26
	May-July	1,019	72	36	24	861	396	271	89	36	104	107	52	205	24
	Aug-Oct p	1,101	78	36	41	919	422	281	93	49	112	111	50	221	28

¶ See Note 1(b).
p Provisional estimates.

processing and repair). The adjustment of imports to a balance of payments basis excludes the values of deliveries of US military aircraft (including spares and some missiles) but includes the payments for those imports which are mainly being financed by a special US Exim Bank credit. (The values involved are now small.) All these adjustments are described in greater detail in the annual 'Pink Book', *United Kingdom Balance of Payments 1973* (Table 6 and pp. 62-66) and in an article in the issue of *Trade and Industry* dated November 4, 1970.

Since firm figures for the adjustments do not become available as quickly as the recorded trade statistics, the figures for imports and exports on a balance of payments basis in the latest months are at this stage preliminary estimates and liable to revision.



1(b) The adjustments described at Note 1(a) are made only for the monthly totals of exports and imports, and cannot be estimated for the area and commodity analyses of trade. The values of total trade and the main components of exports and imports in Tables 5 to 8 are available only on the *Overseas Trade Statistics* basis and correspond with the totals given in the first columns of Tables 2 and 3. Whereas comment on total trade relates to total exports and imports on a balance of payments basis, analyses of the area and commodity patterns of trade in this article are based on the figures on the *Overseas Trade Statistics* basis in Tables 5 to 8. The main components of trade are seasonally adjusted independently from the totals and in consequence do not always add exactly to the seasonally adjusted totals.

1(c) Visible balance. The visible balance is the difference between the import and export figures on a balance of payments basis obtained as described in Note 1(a) above. Since, as noted above, the import and export figures for the most recent months are provisional, it follows that the monthly visible balances for these months are also provisional and liable to revision.

The monthly figures for the visible balance are published only on a seasonally adjusted basis. Since the balance is the difference of two large and variable figures, it is itself liable to fluctuation and undue significance should not be attached to a single month's figure; it is more useful to consider the average balance over three or more months.

1(d) Trends. Even after allowing for seasonal influences, the sequence of monthly figures is usually too variable to give a satisfactory indication of the underlying trend. While it is possible to construct elaborate estimates of trend these cannot be applied to the most recent months, and a simple method of giving some guidance on underlying movements in the most recent past is to take averages of three months. These averages, for the month in question and the two preceding months, are given in Table 1A. Although they are still sensitive to irregular movements in the monthly figures and to special influences, they are markedly less variable than the monthly figures. Apart from occasions when major disturbances distort the flow of trade, the three-monthly average gives a quite good short-term guide and has the merit of simplicity.

1(e) Recording of exports. The new system for the documentation of exports to ensure their full recording has applied to goods shipped from October 25, 1971 (see *Trade and Industry*, August 19, 1971).

Regular assessments of the quality of recording under the new system have shown that, since the beginning of 1972, there has been

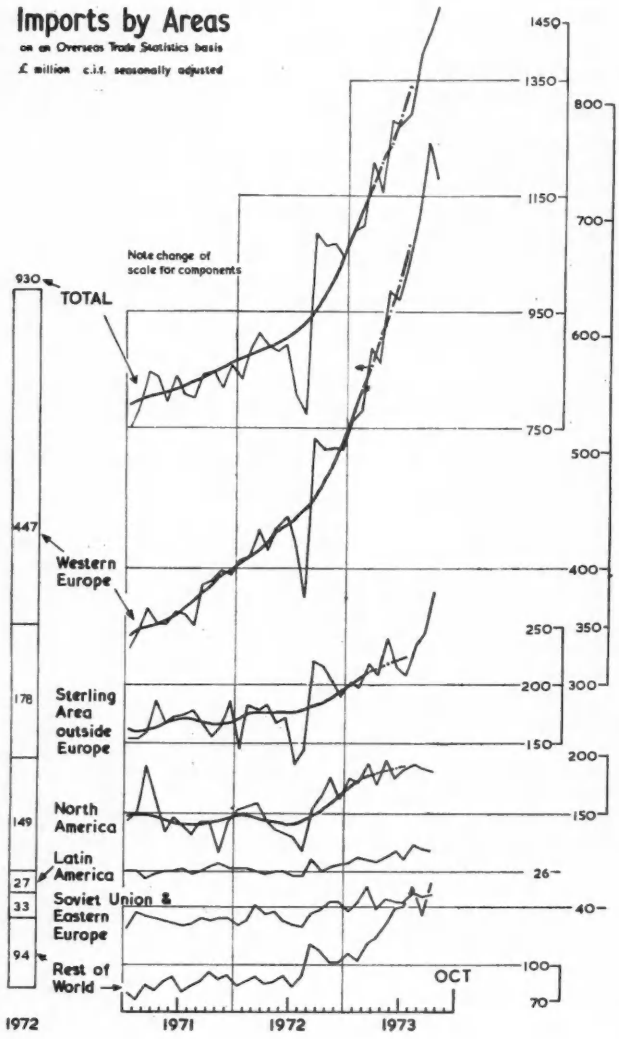
(continued on next page)

TABLE 7. IMPORTS: COMMODITY CLASSES¶ Overseas trade statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million cif per month

		Industrial materials					Finished manufactures					
								Machinery and transport equipment				
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles	Other transport equipment	Other	Miscellaneous
1972	930	197	104	358	110	54	193	261	131	40	16	74	10
4th quarter	1,057	215	108	419	129	62	228	308	151	48	20	90	10
1973 1st quarter	1,134	235	112	450	146	64	240	334	170	50	19	93	10
2nd quarter	1,236	250	127	485	160	68	258	358	186	49	16	107	11
3rd quarter	1,370	267	147	537	168	78	291	405	208	64	24	114	14
August	1,392	280	173	535	163	78	294	404	212	70	14	117	15
September	1,428	273	135	567	180	83	304	429	214	62	34	120	15
October p	1,478	281	181	606	190	84	332	387	198	59	20	111	17
May-July	1,280	253	131	505	162	71	272	374	193	54	21	109	12
Aug-Oct p	1,432	278	163	569	178	81	310	407	208	63	23	116	16

¶ See Note 1(b).
p Provisional estimates.



no need to make adjustments to the export figures for either a shortfall in documentation or a change in the speed of submission of documents.

The new system for recording exports and the methods used to monitor its accuracy are described in an article in *Trade and Industry*, February 15, 1973.

1(f) Timing. The figures for exports relate to documents received in the Statistical Office of HM Customs and Excise up to a few days before the end of the calendar month. On average export documents arrive at the Customs Statistical Office within a fortnight of the shipment of goods, so that the documents relate to goods passing through the ports in the month ending about the middle of the calendar month to which they are attributed. The figures for imports relate to documents received at the Customs Statistical Office up to the third working day after the end of the month. Importers are usually required to present their documents before they can obtain customs clearance and remove the goods. Thus the import statistics correspond closely to movements through the ports during the calendar month to which they are attributed.

1(g) Area analyses of trade. To take into account the change in composition of selected areas arising from the entry on January 1, 1973 of the Irish Republic and Denmark into the enlarged EEC the area headings in tables 5 and 8 of this article have been revised or re-defined. Figures for the Irish Republic are included with those for Western Europe and the EEC and to avoid double counting have been excluded from the Sterling area which has now been designated as 'Sterling area outside Europe'. Figures for Denmark are of course included with those for the EEC and not EFTA. In order to facilitate meaningful comparisons with past periods all figures in both these seasonally adjusted tables are on the present 1973 definition of the selected areas and groups of countries. The analyses in the text are based on the figures in these tables. Standard definitions of all areas and some economic grouping of countries are shown in the *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom.*

1(h) The invisible balance (services and other current transactions) covers the following items: Government services and transfer payments; all other services including transport, travel, and banking and financial transactions; net overseas income in the form of interest, profits and dividends; and private transfers.

2. Overseas Trade Statistics. Detailed particulars of United Kingdom imports and exports with cumulative totals will be published on November 27† and further analysis of the figures will be found in Table 122 to 139 in the *Monthly Digest* for December‡, due to be published in the second week of January 1974.

† *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom,* published by HMSO, price £1.85 (annual subscription £25.05).
‡ *Monthly Digest of Statistics,* published by HMSO, price 63p (annual subscription including Supplement of Definitions and postage, £8.60).

TABLE 8. IMPORTS: AREAS¶ Overseas trade statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million cif per month

	Total	Sterling area outside Europe	Western Europe inc. Irish Republic*			North America	Latin America	Soviet Union and Eastern Europe	Rest of World
			Total*	EEC*	EFTA*				
1972	930	178	447	293	134	149	27	33	94
4th quarter	1,057	204	503	326	156	169	29	42	106
1973 1st quarter	1,134	206	552	361	169	184	36	46	111
2nd quarter	1,236	222	614	409	179	183	38	41	134
3rd quarter	1,370	229	708	461	217	190	42	47	153
August	1,392	235	698	476	201	193	48	51	167
September	1,428	244	764	475	248	187	43	47	143
October p	1,478	280	736	481	218	187	41	51	171
May-July	1,280	220	644	430	186	187	39	45	144
Aug-Oct p	1,432	252	733	477	223	189	44	50	160

p Provisional estimates.
¶ See Note 1 (b).
* See Note 1(g).

ENERGY TRENDS

Where does all the energy go?

Latest monthly highlight

In September total inland energy consumption, at a seasonally-adjusted annual rate of 344 mtce, was 5.6 per cent higher than in September 1972. The following table shows that in the third quarter of 1973 energy consumption rose above that for the previous two quarters to a level 5 per cent higher than a year ago.

INLAND ENERGY CONSUMPTION BY QUARTER

(Adjusted for seasonal and temperature deviations) (annual rates mtce)

	Jan.-March	April-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.
1970	322.9	325.6	329.6	333.1
1971	324.3	323.9	319.9	329.5
1972	308.6	330.7	328.8	341.6
1973	340.4	340.2	344.1	
% change				
1972 on 1971	−5	+2	+3	+4
1973 on 1972	+10	+3	+5	

Lost energy

Only 70 per cent of the total energy contained in the primary fuels consumed in the United Kingdom reaches the final user in the home, office, factory or vehicle. In 1970-72 the energy content of the primary fuels (coal, oil, natural gas, nuclear power and hydro-electricity) consumed by the nation exceeded 82,000 million therms annually, while total consumption of both primary and secondary fuels by final users averaged less than 58,000 million therms. The balance was used by the fuel industries themselves or was 'lost' on the way to the consumer. In all, a great deal of energy was involved, more than 25,000 million therms each year, equivalent to about 90 million tons of coal. Where did it all go?

The table below shows that most of it was accounted for within the fuel sector itself. To start with, the primary fuel industries (which in this article are taken to include oil refining) themselves consumed some of the fuels they produced. Coal mines burn coal and oil refineries are run on fuel oil and other oil products. Primary producers' own consumption took care of nearly 3,000 million therms in 1970-72.

CONSUMPTION OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ENERGY

million therms

	1970	1971	1972
Total primary energy consumption	83,481	82,565	83,847
lost in distribution*	*	*	− 637
used by primary fuel producers	− 2,951	− 2,935	− 2,996
supplied to final consumers	−40,491	−41,215	−42,699
supplied to secondary fuel producers	40,039	38,415	37,515
lost in conversion	−19,594	−19,193	−19,475
Total secondary fuels produced	20,445	19,222	18,040
plus electricity from collieries	+ 6	+ 7	+ 6
own use by secondary fuel producers	− 1,459	− 1,428	− 1,384
lost in distribution	− 1,387	− 1,406	− 1,011*
used by primary fuel producers	− 194	− 197	− 185
net exports and stock change	+ 38	− 419	− 114
supplied to final consumers	17,449	15,779	15,352
Summary:			
Energy supplied to final consumers			
Primary fuels	40,491	41,215	42,699
Secondary fuels	17,449	15,779	15,352
Total	57,940	56,994	58,051
Energy lost in conversion, distribution, etc.	25,541	25,571	25,796
Total primary energy consumption	83,481	82,565	83,847

* Estimated losses of natural gas supplied direct. In 1970 and 1971 all losses were attributed to town gas lost in distribution.

Of the net availability of primary fuel about half was supplied for direct consumption by final users. In 1972 the quantities were: coal 8,085 million therms, petroleum 28,634 million therms and natural gas 5,980 million therms. The remaining primary fuel was supplied as an input to the conversion industries which produced the secondary fuels of electricity, town gas, coke oven gas, coke and other manufactured fuels. The processes of fuel conversion themselves use up large amounts of energy, averaging more than 19,000 million therms in 1970-72. Most of this was used in electricity generation. With present technology this is inevitably very costly in energy terms with an input/output ratio of about 3 : 1 as the following table demonstrates.

CONSUMPTION OF PRIMARY FUELS IN ELECTRICITY GENERATION

million therms

	1970	1971	1972
Coal	17,408	16,562	15,025
Petroleum	5,196	6,055	7,779
Natural gas	60	263	630
Nuclear power	2,183	2,275	2,450
Hydro-electricity	610	421	463
Total input of primary fuels	25,457	25,576	26,347
Used in conversion	17,481	17,362	17,865
Secondary electricity produced	7,976	8,214	8,482

Although the production of secondary fuels has declined in recent years as a result of the displacement of town gas by natural gas and with less coke production, total secondary fuel output averaged more than 19,000 million therms in 1970-72. But the conversion industries themselves consumed some of the fuel they produced. Coke ovens burn gas while the electricity supply industry itself consumes electric power. Total secondary energy use by fuel converters averaged 1,400 million therms a year.

The net quantity of secondary fuels available for supply ranged from 19,000 million therms in 1970 to 16,660 million therms in 1972. However, further amounts of energy are 'lost' in the distribution of electricity and gas to consumers. Moreover, some secondary fuel is consumed by primary fuel producers: in 1970-72 collieries and oil refineries took an average 187 million therms of electricity a year from the public supply.

For these reasons, then, in 1972, of the 37,500 million therms of primary energy put into the fuel conversion industries, the secondary fuel producers had available for distribution just over 18,000 million therms of which final consumers received 15,350 million therms. This was made up of: electricity 7,014 million therms, town gas 3,312 million therms and coke, other solid fuels and coke oven gas, 5,026 million therms.

That is not the end of the story, however. Final consumers do not always get the full advantage of those therms contained in the primary and secondary fuels supplied to them. Further losses, some unavoidable, some due to inefficient techniques, occur at the point of consumption when the energy input is transformed in grates, boilers or internal combustion engines into heat or mechanical output.

It is not possible to include figures of 'useful consumption' because of lack of precise data on the different purposes for which fuels are used by some consuming sectors and on the utilisation efficiencies of the many different consuming appliances.

(*continued on next page*)

The work of BSI

The British Standards Institution is the official standards organisation for this country and is very active in removing technical barriers to trade through international standards organisation such as ISO and IEC. BSI has several other functions. It runs certification and approvals schemes, among them granting licences to manufacturers to use the 'Kitemark' on products conforming to British Standards. It also undertakes testing work for outside bodies and, through the Technical Help to Exporters Scheme, provides information on technical requirements and approvals procedures in overseas markets. BSI, 2 Park Street, London W1A 2BS.

INLAND ENERGY CONSUMPTION : Seasonally adjusted annual rates
(Coal Petroleum and Total Consumption have also been temperature corrected)

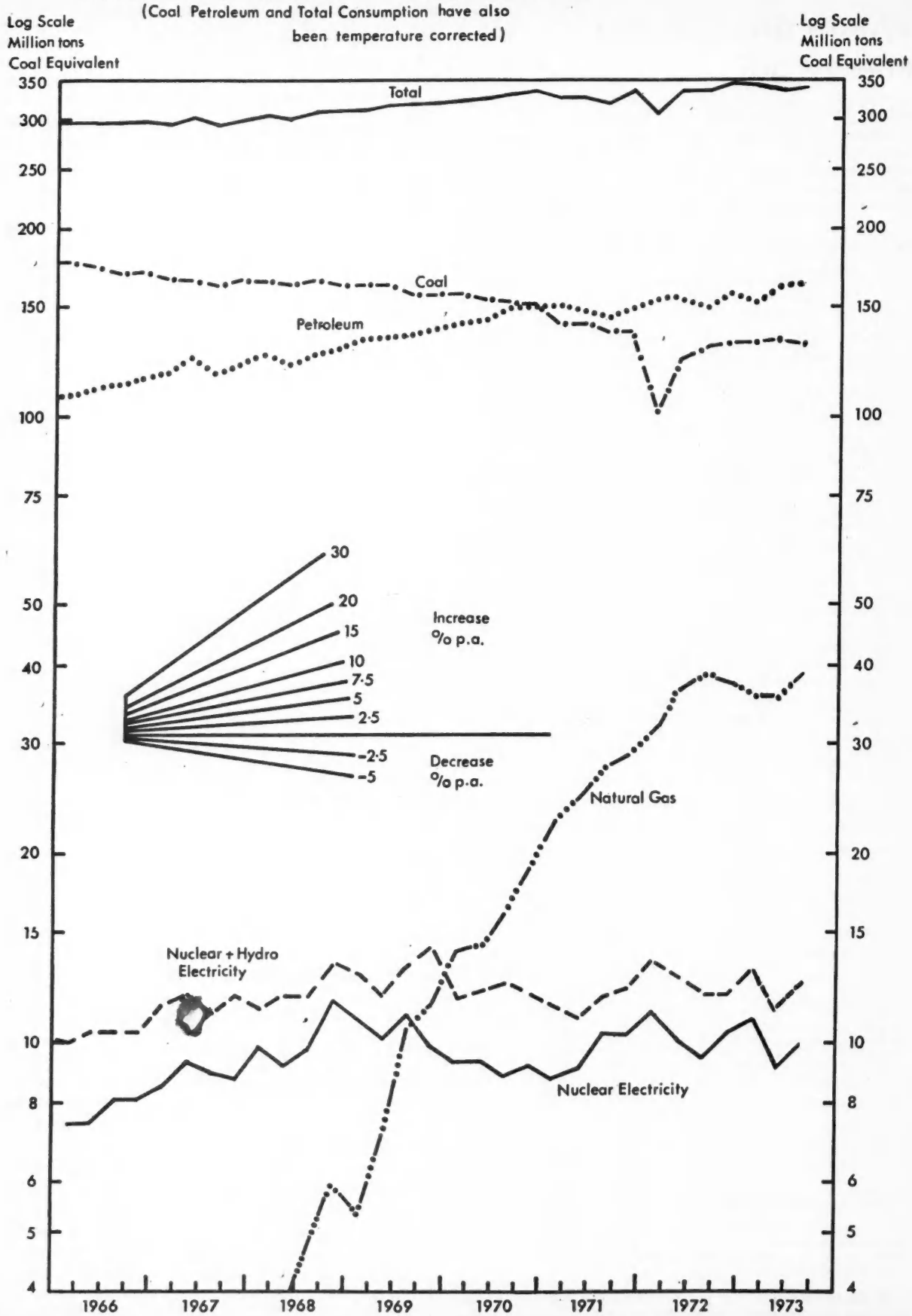


TABLE 1. INLAND ENERGY CONSUMPTION: PRIMARY FUEL INPUT BASIS

Million tons of coal or coal equivalent

	Total	Coal	Petroleum	Natural gas	Nuclear electricity	Hydro-electricity	Total†	Coal†	Petroleum†	Natural gas	Nuclear electricity	Hydro-electricity
1968	307.0	164.5	125.6	4.3	10.1	2.2	306.4	164.1	125.7	4.3	10.1	2.2
1969	217.7	161.1	135.7	8.4	10.5	2.0	315.1	159.6	134.6	8.4	10.5	2.0
1970	328.0	154.4	145.6	16.0	9.4	2.6	237.9	154.2	145.7	16.0	9.4	2.6
1971	323.3	138.7	147.3	25.8	9.7	1.8	324.4	139.1	148.0	25.8	9.7	1.8
1972	327.7	120.9	157.6	36.7	10.5	2.0	327.6	120.9	157.5	36.7	10.5	2.0
	Unadjusted						Seasonally adjusted (annual rate)					
1972 Jan.-Sept.	234.6	85.4	114.5	25.5	7.7	1.5	322.8	117.7	156.5	36.0	10.4	2.3
1973 Jan.-Sept.	236.9	94.7	116.5	26.7	7.5	1.5	341.6	131.1	161.2	37.4	10.1	2.2
Per cent change	+5.2	+10.9	+1.8	+4.4	−2.9	−3.9	+5.8	+11.4	+3.0	+3.8	−3.4	−0.7
1972 Sept.	27.9	11.6	12.9	2.5	0.8	0.1	325.4	130.1	147.4	41.3	9.6	1.8
1973 Sept.	28.2	11.7	13.1	2.4	0.9	0.1	343.7	135.3	157.3	41.1	10.4	2.3
Per cent change	+1.1	+0.9	+2.1	−1.4	+9.1	+20.6	+5.6	+4.0	+6.7	−0.5	+8.0	+25.3

† Also temperature corrected.

TABLE 2. INLAND ENERGY CONSUMPTION: HEAT SUPPLIED BASIS

Million therms

	Total primary energy	Used by fuel industries and losses in distribution	Final consumption						
			Total	Coal	Other solid fuels	Other coal derived fuels§	Petroleum	Gas†	Electricity
1968	78,816	23,647	55,169	13,613	6,507	732	24,063	4,434	5,820
1969	81,363	24,595	56,768	12,883	6,409	641	25,628	4,962	6,245
1970	83,481	25,541	57,940	11,839	6,008	621	27,198	5,720	6,554
1971	82,521	25,527	56,994	9,867	4,949	542	27,617	7,257	6,762
1972 p	83,847	25,796	58,051	8,085	4,612	513	28,634	9,193	7,014
1972 1st quarter	22,695	6,871	15,824	2,001	1,060	93	7,930	2,753	1,987
2nd quarter	19,849	6,035	13,814	2,004	1,157	134	6,845	2,033	1,641
3rd quarter p	17,524	5,433	12,091	1,716	1,165	135	6,037	1,614	1,424
4th quarter p	23,779	7,457	16,322	2,364	1,230	151	7,822	2,793	1,962
1973 1st quarter p	24,809	7,388	17,421	2,321	1,249	135	8,307	3,258	2,151
2nd quarter p	20,770	6,362	14,408	1,938	1,252	129	7,036	2,272	1,781

§ Coke oven gas, creosote/pitch mixtures and other liquid fuels derived from coal. † Town gas and natural gas supplied direct.

TABLE 3. ENERGY CONSUMPTION BY FINAL USERS: HEAT SUPPLIED BASIS

Million therms

					1971		1972				1973	
	1969	1970	1971	1972p	3rd quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter	2nd quarter p
Iron and steel industry												
Coal	240	210	154	93	29	35	26	20	18	29	32	13
Other solid fuel	3,521	3,485	3,049	2,899	743	684	567	772	774	786	812	769
Other coal derived fuels§	557	553	490	459	119	109	81	122	121	135	124	117
Gas†	174	244	343	437	98	80	102	98	92	145	104	97
Electricity	368	378	349	335	84	86	88	85	80	82	88	85
Petroleum	2,227	2,328	2,185	2,089	464	555	604	497	428	560	584	509
Total	7,087	7,198	6,570	6,312	1,537	1,549	1,468	1,594	1,513	1,737	1,744	1,590
Other industries												
Coal	5,332	4,824	3,908	2,954	790	983	754	723	638	839	819	718
Other solid fuel	358	375	267	229	55	55	46	61	57	65	63	67
Other coal derived fuels§	72	62	52	54	12	12	12	2	14	16	11	12
Gas†	873	1,172	2,118	3,251	500	681	716	783	776	976	1,055	996
Electricity	2,032	2,105	2,154	2,176	489	571	490	550	526	610	629	640
Petroleum	8,386	8,945	8,982	9,294	1,657	2,650	2,723	2,150	1,682	2,739	2,820	2,100
Total	17,053	17,483	17,481	17,958	3,503	4,952	4,741	4,279	3,693	5,245	5,385	4,553
Domestic sector												
Coal	6,141	5,654	4,829	4,209	861	1,191	1,007	1,056	903	1,243	1,248	1,012
Other solid fuel	1,682	1,483	1,307	1,188	251	335	347	271	262	308	301	318
Gas‡	3,211	3,542	3,930	4,509	453	1,210	1,628	931	601	1,349	1,741	949
Electricity	2,464	2,625	2,763	2,960	453	758	960	666	511	823	1,021	684
Petroleum	1,222	1,335	1,321	1,523	138	420	571	292	188	472	612	320
Total	14,720	14,639	14,150	14,389	2,156	3,914	4,513	3,216	2,465	4,195	4,923	3,283
Transport sector												
Coal	80	70	52	30	8	14	6	8	6	10	8	6
Other solid fuel	15	14	5	2	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
Other coal derived fuels§	12	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Electricity	93	94	94	92	22	25	25	22	23	22	24	22
Petroleum	10,466	11,002	11,483	11,962	3,057	2,851	2,732	3,030	3,207	2,993	2,966	3,265
Total	10,666	11,186	11,634	12,086	3,088	2,891	2,764	3,061	3,236	3,025	2,998	3,293
Other final consumers												
Coal	1,090	1,081	924	799	123	278	208	197	151	243	214	189
Other solid fuel	833	651	321	294	60	65	99	52	72	71	73	98
Gas†	704	762	866	996	131	257	307	221	145	323	368	230
Electricity	1,288	1,352	1,402	1,451	259	396	424	318	284	425	389	350
Petroleum	3,327	3,588	3,646	3,766	485	1,065	1,300	876	532	1,058	1,325	842
Total	7,242	7,434	7,159	7,306	1,058	2,061	2,338	1,664	1,184	2,120	2,359	1,709

§ Coke oven gas, creosote/pitch mixtures and other liquid fuels derived from coal. † Town gas and natural gas supplied direct.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 4. PRODUCTION AND NET ARRIVALS OF PRINCIPAL FUELS

	Production of principal fuels									Net arrivals			
	Primary fuels					Secondary fuels					Petroleum		
	Coal	Crude petroleum §§	Natural gas	Electricity generated† Nuclear §	Hydro	Solid fuels	Refined petroleum‡	Gas available	Electricity generated	Coal	Crude	Refined	Natural gas
	Million tons	Million tons	Million therms	TWh	TWh	Million tons	Million tons	Million therms	TWh	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million therms
1968	167.2	0.09	811	27.7	3.6	27.2	77.9	4,901	209.4	−2.7	81.8	8.0	396
1969	153.2	0.10	1,938	29.1	3.3	25.9	86.2	5,517	223.4	−3.5	91.4	6.1	416
1970	144.8	0.15	4,153	26.0	4.5	24.3	95.7	6,350	233.7	−3.1	99.4	2.3	333
1971	147.0	0.20	6,902	27.5	3.4	21.8	99.1	8,080	241.3	+1.5	104.5	2.1	332
1972	119.9	0.32	9,920	29.4	3.4	19.1	100.5	10,621	248.1	+3.2	102.5	4.6	306
1972 July	9.9	0.02	539	1.7	0.2	1.6	8.4	511	14.1	—	7.5	−0.5	25
August	8.0	0.02	583	1.7	0.2	1.6	7.9	534	14.4	0.1	8.7	−0.3	25
September	12.5	0.02	664	2.2	0.2	2.1	7.9	802	21.0	0.1	8.6	−0.6	31
1973 July	9.0	0.02	568	1.7	0.3	1.5	9.1	552	15.1	—	8.6	−0.4	6
August	7.8	0.02	553	1.8	0.2	1.5	9.2	523	15.0	−0.1	10.1	−0.6	37
September	12.4	0.02	656	2.4	0.3	1.9	9.2	791	21.3	−0.2			30
October	10.6					1.5				−0.2			

§ Generation for public supply
§§ Including natural gas liquids.
† Also included in secondary electricity.
‡ Including feedstock for further processing at petro-chemical plants

TABLE 5. COAL SUPPLY

Thousand tons

		Production					Tonnage lost (deep-mined)†	
		Total‡						
	Total supply	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Deep-mined	Opencast	Imports	Recognised holidays and rest days	Disputes
1968	167,235	167,235		157,215	6,864	—	13,277	286
1969	153,234	153,234		144,241	6,320	—	12,137	2,913
1970	144,869	144,791		134,526	7,760	78	11,689	3,103
1971	151,255	147,081		134,322	10,498	4,174	11,045	4,734
1972	124,830	119,911		107,362	10,273	4,919	10,244	22,117
1972 January-Oct.	97,722	81,498		83,080	8,145	4,634	10,244	21,274
1973 January-Oct.	..	101,791		102,589	8,421	..	8,741	820
1972 October	11,775	11,590	10,880	10,571	856	185	56	51
1973 October	..	10 647	10.020	9,618	836	..	22	76
Per cent change	..	−8.1	−7.9	−9.0	−2.3	..	−60.7	+49.0

† NCB mines only
‡ Including slurry etc. recovered and disposed of other than by the National Coal Board.

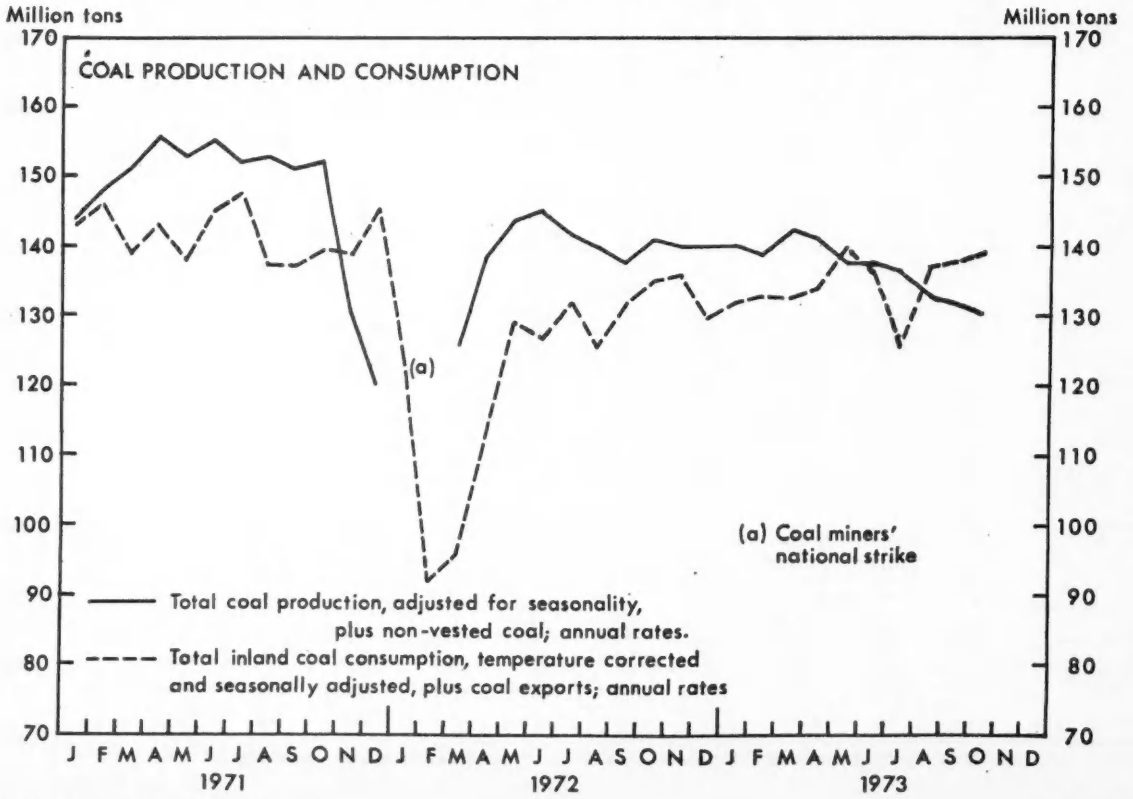

Million tons
Million tons
COAL PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION
170
160
150
140
130
120
110
100
90
80
70
(a)
(a) Coal miners' national strike
Total coal production, adjusted for seasonality, plus non-vested coal; annual rates.
Total inland coal consumption, temperature corrected and seasonally adjusted, plus coal exports; annual rates
J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D
1971
1972
1973

TABLE 6. COLLIERY MANPOWER AND PRODUCTIVITY AT NCB MINES

	Number of wage-earners on colliery books at end of period		Absence percentage			Average output per manshift†		Recruitment	Wastage
	Thousands		Per cent			cwt.			
	Total	Underground	Total	Voluntary	Involuntary	Overall	At the face	Number	
1968	325	257	18.1	4.7	13.4	41.70	129.33	15,262	72,519
1969	300	235	18.3	4.8	13.5	43.45	136.96	23,346	48,295
1970	283	221	19.8	4.5	15.3	44.10	141.80	25,109	41,581
1971	279	218	18.1	4.4	13.7	43.94	143.08	28,010	32,309
1972	266	210	16.6	3.9	12.7	43.37	143.71	13,254	26,113
1972 January-October	272‡	213‡	16.2	3.9	12.3	42.78	141.94	9,967	21,690
1973 January-October	259	205‡	..	..	..	46.06	..	15,042	31,069
1972 October	267	210	17.8	4.0	13.8	46.47	149.86	1,703	2,261
1973 October	250	197	..	..	..	45.23	..	1,417	4,068

† Excluding capital working and tip coal. ‡ Weekly average.

TABLE 7. CONSUMPTION OF COAL

Thousand tons

			Inland consumption						Colliery disposals			
	Total	Overseas shipments	Total inland consumption	Collieries	Power stations§§	Gas works	Coke ovens	Other conversion industries	Industry¶	House coal§†	Anthracite and dry † steam coal	Miscellaneous‡
1968	167,185	2,678	164,507	2,420	73,191	10,646	24,934	3,474	22,585	21,353	1,860	4,044
1969	164,615	3,456	161,159	2,032	75,883	6,867	25,373	3,846	21,367	19,745	1,883	4,163
1970	157,548	3,141	154,407	1,886	76,017	4,212	24,940	4,084	19,304	17,882	1,990	4,092
1971	141,330	2,625	138,705	1,556	71,696	1,826	23,182	4,406	15,581	15,366	1,621	3,471
1972	122,710	1,768	120,942	1,383	65,611	566	20,152	4,475	11,478	12,568	1,757	2,952
1972 Jan.-Oct.	96,703	1,200	95,503	1,086	51,308	457	16,165	3,664	9,132	9,962	1,426	2,303
1973 Jan.-Oct.	108,867	2,213	106,654	1,136	60,055	430	18,495	2,899	9,572	10,517	1,478	2,072
Per cent change	+12.6	+84.4	+11.7	+4.5	+17.0	−5.8	+14.4	+20.9				−10.0
1972 October	10,615	221	10,394	118	5,552	42	1,793	416	924	1,155	144	250
1973 October	11,305	238	11,067	97	6,634	28	1,740	246	1,073	875	135	239
Per cent change	+0.5	+7.7	+6.5	−17.5	+19.5	−31.7	−2.9	−40.9				−4.2

† Prior to April 1973 the figures relate to merchants' disposals to the domestic market.
‡ Including coal used for transport purposes and shipments to the Channel Islands.
¶ Prior to October 1973 the figures relate to actual consumption.
§ Including miners' coal.
§§ Public supply electricity and railway and transport power stations.

TABLE 8. STOCKS OF COAL (a) GREAT BRITAIN

End of period

End of period

Thousand tons

		Distributed					Undistributed		
	Total	Total distributed stocks	Powe stations	Gas works	Coke ovens	Miscellaneous	Tota undistributed stocks	Opencast sites and central stocking grounds	Collieries
1968	42,589	14,554	12,490	726	1,107	231	28,035	4,234	23,801
1969	31,416	12,935	11,018	461	1,231	225	18,481	3,159	15,322
1970	18,729	11,627	9,575	276	1,434	342	7,102	1,836	5,266
1971	28,211	17,982	15,712	72	1,777	421	10,229	3,256	6,973
1972	29,796	19,044	16,790	50	1,890	314	10,752	3,308	7,444
1972 October	28,977	18,959	16,996	48	1,616	299	10,018	3,473	6,545
1973 October	35,011	21,772	19,610	36	1,846	280	13,239	3,446	9,793
Number of winter weeks' consumption									
1972 October			9.5		3.6				
1973 October			11.2		4.1				

(a) Excluding distributed stocks held in merchants' yards, etc., mainly for the domestic market, and stocks distributed to the industrial sector.

TABLE 9. GAS: SOURCES OF SUPPLY AND SEND-OUT BY THE PUBLIC GAS SUPPLY SYSTEM

	Natural gas supply			Fuel used for all purposes		Gas sent out		
	Net total into system	Indigenous	Arrivals	Coal	Oil	Total	Town gas	Natural gas for direct supply
	Million therms			Thousand tons		Million therms		
1968	1,130	740	390	10,646	5,455	4,836	4,745	91
1969	2,267	1,856	411	6,885	5,525	5,437	4,973	464
1970	4,342	4,023	319	4,212	3,590	6,301	4,787	1,514
1971	6,977	6,660	317	1,770	1,881	8,061	4,069	3,992
1972	10,071	9,775	296	559	1,550	10,614	3,415	7,199
1972 Jan.-September	7,028	6,786	242	406	1,058	7,375	2,524	4,851
1973 Jan.-September	7,390	7,198	192	401	1,306	7,934	1,772	6,162
Per cent change	+5.2	+6.1	−20.7	−1.2	+23.4	+7.6	−29.8	+27.0
1972 September	783	752	31	52	60	801	210	591
1973 September	763	727	36	37	81	790	127	663
Per cent change	−2.6	−3.3	+16.1	−28.8	+35	−1.4	−39.5	+12.2

(continued on next page)

TABLE 10. GENERATION OF ELECTRICITY BY THE PUBLIC ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SYSTEM

	Primary fuel demand						Electricity generated				
								By steam plant			
	Total††	Coal	Oil	Natural gas	Nuclear electricity	Hydro-electricity	Total†	Nuclear	Other	Electricity sent out	Total electricity available
	Million tons of coal or coal equivalent						Million kilowatt hours				
United Kingdom											
1968	95.20	73.58	10.69	—	8.63	1.91	204,477	24,056	175,873	189,241	193,526
1969	100.75	76.05	13.81	0.14	9.01	1.74	218,402	25,271	188,177	201,970	206,295
1970	107.18	76.17	20.81	0.21	7.73	2.26	228,236	21,870	199,869	210,904	215,488
1971	105.85	71.18	24.16	0.95	8.05	1.51	235,740	23,209	207,808	218,000	222,374
1972	109.38	65.30	31.25	2.26	8.89	1.58	242,745	25,303	212,196	224,700	229,232
1972 January-September	77.95	45.48	23.03	1.64	6.48	1.29	172,244	13,400	149,941	160,188	162,565
1973 January-September	82.11	53.35	20.77	0.55	6.20	1.20	186,015	17,785	164,826	173,359	175,882
Per cent change	+5.3	+17.3	−9.8	−66.4	−4.3	−7.0	+8.0	−3.3	+9.9	+8.2	+8.2
1972 September	9.40	6.11	2.43	0.12	0.65	0.09	20,483	1,854	18,193	19,018	19,273
1973 September	9.33	6.32	2.13	0.07	0.69	0.11	20,782	1,967	18,410	19,311	19,648
Per cent change	−0.8	+3.5	−12.1	−44.7	+6.8	+23.9	+1.5	+6.1	+1.2	+1.5	+1.9
England and Wales											
1968	84.36	67.30	8.86	—	7.73	0.47	182,244	21,549	159,611	168,817	169,884
1969	89.35	69.16	11.61	0.14	8.05	0.39	193,474	22,582	169,470	179,307	180,887
1970	94.47	69.61	17.45	0.21	6.79	0.41	200,421	19,230	179,184	185,505	188,594
1971	93.30	64.95	20.07	0.95	7.19	0.14	208,070	20,679	186,144	192,738	195,127
1972	95.63	58.24	26.74	2.26	8.08	0.31	212,910	23,010	187,951	197,199	200,239
1972 January-September	68.25	40.59	19.86	1.64	5.89	0.24	151,153	16,700	133,101	139,894	142,258
1973 January-September	71.38	47.37	17.71	0.55	5.62	0.10	162,500	16,098	145,333	150,729	153,548
Per cent change	+4.6	16.7	−10.8	−66.4	−4.6	−58.8	+7.5	−3.6	+9.2	+7.7	+7.9
1972 September	8.32	5.57	2.00	0.12	0.60	0.01	18,199	1,719	16,247	16,811	16,952
1973 September	8.15	5.60	1.82	0.07	0.65	0.01	18,288	1,842	16,294	16,932	17,175
Per cent change	−2.0	+0.6	−9.1	−44.7	+7.7	−33.3	+0.5	+7.2	+0.3	+0.7	+1.3

† Including generation by oil-engine and hydro-electric plant. †† Including coke.

TABLE 11. PLANT CAPACITY OF THE PUBLIC ELECTRICITY SUPPLY INDUSTRY

Megawatts

	United Kingdom			England and Wales		
	Output capacity			Output capacity		
	At end of period	New plant brought into commission during period†	Maximum load during period	At end of period	New plant brought into commission during period†	Maximum load during period
1968	61,029	4,173	42,884	44,372	3,439	37,735
1969	52,735	2,777	43,885	46,035	2,661	38,156
1970	57,237	5,791	44,161	49,335	4,511	38,651
1971	61,972	5,178	44,867	53,559	4,592	39,066
1972	65,067	3,618	45,897	56,055	3,029	39,927
1972 September	64,064	25	32,330	55,130	25	28,599
1973 September	65,587	57	36,552	56,662	57	31,658

† Including revisions to interim ratings.

TABLE 12. ELECTRICITY GENERATED OUTSIDE THE PUBLIC ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SYSTEM

GWh

	Iron and steel (1)	Engineering and other metal trades (2)	Food, drink and tobacco (3)	Coal mining (4)	Chemical and allied trades: Nuclear power stations (5)	Chemical and allied trades: Other† (6)	Textiles, leather and clothing (7)	Paper, printing and stationery (8)	Other industries (including gas and water-works) (9)	Total industry (10)	Transport under-takings (11)	Total (12)
1968	2,779	1,412	376	623	3,655	5,753	568	2,857	598	18,621	625	19,246
1969	2,835	1,328	383	585	3,854	6,769	545	2,970	643	19,912	685	20,597
1970	2,700	1,508	375	478	4,142	6,846	564	2,965	637	20,215	664	20,879
1971	2,888	1,344	410	411	4,339	6,987	535	2,671	629	20,214	677	20,891
1972	2,587	1,320	409	420	4,098	7,408	458	2,786	679	20,165	689	20,854
1972 1st quarter	743	319	140	77	1,255	1,925	105	710	188	5,462	178	5,640
2nd quarter	618	318	53	117	907	1,916	119	679	160	4,887	167	5,054
3rd quarter	550	332	45	100	950	1,766	112	633	149	4,637	163	4,800
4th quarter	676	351	171	126	986	1,801	122	764	182	5,179	181	5,360
1973 1st quarter	797	624	108	139	1,157	2,060	133	773	203	5,994	194	6,188
2nd quarter	641	565	62	113	1,001	1,843	127	692	169	5,213	175	5,388
3rd quarter	553	672	62	90	1,105	1,743	114	584	156	5,079	162	5,241

† Including production by the mineral oil refining industry

TABLE 13. SALES OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY BY THE PUBLIC SUPPLY SYSTEMS

	Gas					Electricity				
	Total	Iron and steel industry	Other industries	Domestic	Other	Total	Iron and steel industry	Other industries	Domestic	Other
	Million therms					GWh				
1968	4,443	140	820	2,829	654	177,096	11,000	62,826	66,655	36,615
1969	5,000	174	911	3,211	704	188,834	11,693	65,742	72,185	39,214
1970	5,780	244	1,232	3,542	762	197,751	12,004	67,489	77,213	41,045
1971	7,520	343	2,381	3,930	866	203,433	10,837	69,371	80,674	42,551
1972	9,787	437	3,845	4,509	996	210,470	10,774	69,117	86,723	43,856
1972 1st quarter	2,883	102	853	1,623	305	59,535	2,766	15,970	28,088	12,731
2nd quarter	2,223	98	968	935	222	49,385	2,682	17,630	19,468	9,605
3rd quarter	1,738	92	897	603	146	42,124	2,620	16,330	14,567	8,607
4th quarter p	2,943	145	1,127	1,348	323	59,426	2,706	19,187	24,620	12,913
1973 1st quarter p	3,306	104	1,104	1,741	357	66,562	2,977	19,795	30,015	13,775
2nd quarter p	2,330	97	1,047	955	231	52,391	2,947	18,715	20,115	10,614

p Provisional.

(continued on next page)

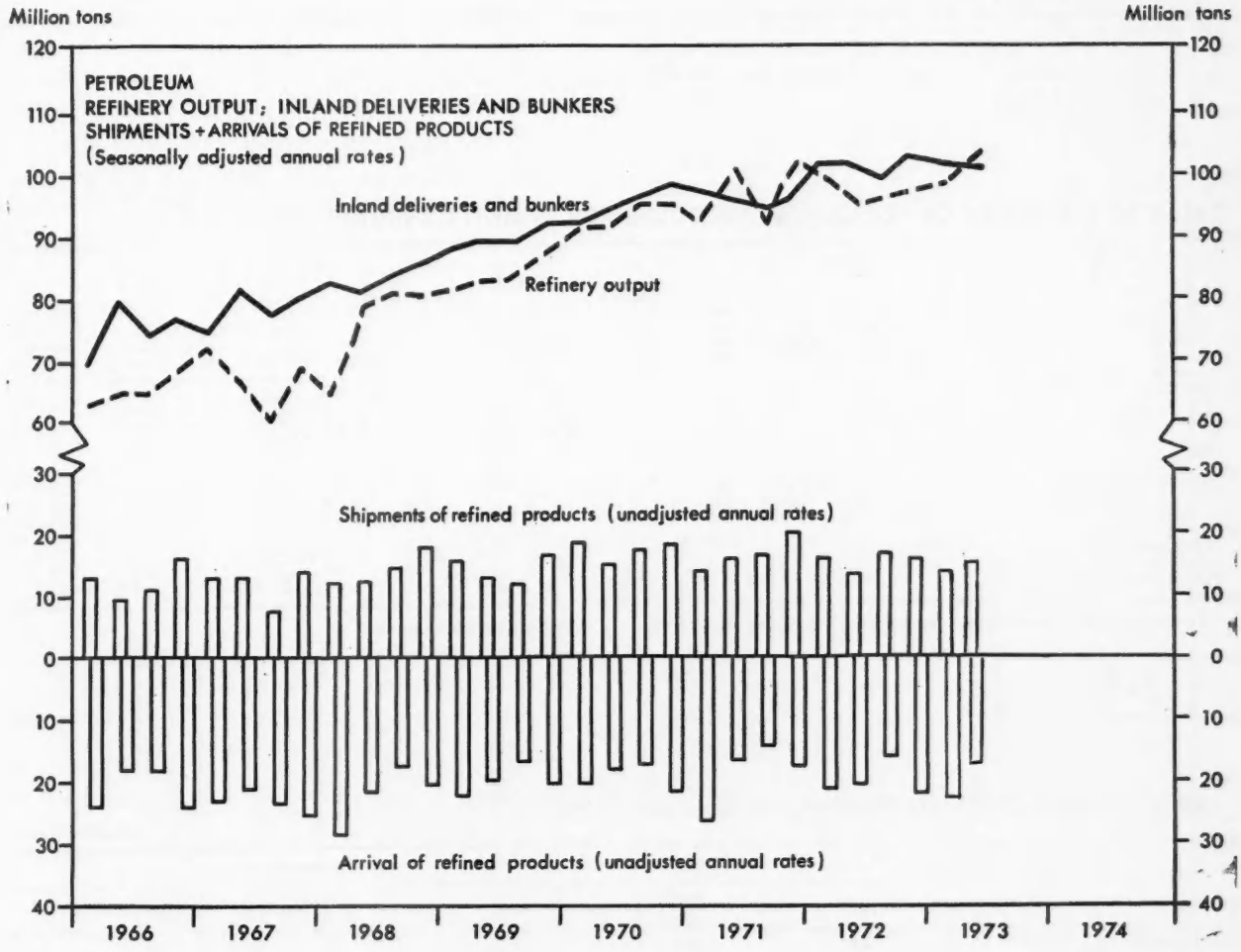


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TABLE 14. REFINERY THROUGHPUT AND OUTPUT OF FINISHED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

Thousand tons

	Throughput of crude, process and shale oils	Refinery fuel	Total output of finished products††	Gases		Aviation spirit and aviation wide-cut gasoline	Motor spirit	Industrial and white spirits	Kerosene		Gas/diesel oil	Fuel oil	Lubricating oils	Bitumen
				Butane and propane	Other petroleum				Burning oil†	Vaporising oil				
1968	81,787	5,073	75,832	1,022	586	430	9,379	247	4,583	69	16,874	33,718	1,019	1,726
1969	90,251	5,547	83,743	1,129	507	312	10,065	195	5,310	56	19,170	37,661	1,183	1,695
1970	100,301	5,933	93,200	1,163	364	287	11,167	186	5,724	36	22,159	42,181	1,303	1,886
1971	103,678	6,086	96,693	1,217	280	180	12,324	129	6,108	40	24,068	42,491	1,407	2,061
1972	105.290	6,319	97,797	1,440	363	416	13,417	123	6,689	31	25,133	40,355	1,312	1,972
1972 January-August	69,754	4,185	64,933	932	239	277	8,944	84	4,414	23	16,750	26,774	851	1,367
1973 January-August	74,014	4,550	68,653	1,051	257	267	9,870	98	4,689	27	17,809	27,373	948	1,480
Per cent change	+6.1	+8.7	+5.7	+12.8	+7.5	−3.6	+10.3	+16.7	+6.2	+17.4	+4.3	+2.2	+11.4	+8.3
1972 August	8,324	490	7,750	88	18	88	1,203	10	572	1	1,852	3,239	98	179
1973 August	9,671	595	8,993	128	27	51	1,377	16	525	5	2,483	3,441	131	189
Per cent change	+16.2	+21.4	+16.0	+45.5	+50	−42.0	+14.5	+60.0	−8.2	+61.3	+34.1	+6.2	+33.7	+6.8

† Including aviation turbine fuel.
†† Including output of products not shown separately namely naphtha (light distillate feedstock) and other feedstock, waxes and miscellaneous production: refinery losses have been excluded.

TABLE 15. DELIVERIES OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS FOR INLAND CONSUMPTION

	Total §	Aviation spirit and aviation wide-cut gasoline	Motor spirit	Industrial and white spirits	Kerosene			Gas/diesel oil		Fuel oil †	Lubricating oils	Bitumen	Paraffin wax
					Aviation turbine fuel	Burning oil	Vaporising oil	Derv fuel	Other				
1968	77,746	445	12,808	361	2,721	1,967	74	4,577	9,025	30,611	1,134	1,828	55
1969	83,779	377	13,231	241	2,921	2,208	64	4,791	10,349	33,393	1,208	1,812	58
1970	89,404	224	14,010	181	3,202	2,442	53	4,955	11,918	37,975	1,157	2 036	56
1971	90,073	145	14,727	183	3,690	2,525	47	5,104	12,370	38,772	1,129	2,173	61
1972	96,157	139	15,648	211	3,867	2,882	40	5,172	14,874	40,654	1,095	2,169	65
1972 January-September	70,184	105	11,708	159	2,950	1,969	34	3,828	10,712	9,375	820	1,661	48
1973 January-September	70,767	106	12,619	170	3,234	2,049	29	4,091	10,400	8,248	872	1,867	54
Per cent change	+0.8	+1.1	+7.8	+6.5	+8.5	+4.1	−15.6	+6.9	−2.9	−3.8	+6.4	+12.4	+12.8
1972 September	6,887	13	1,358	18	387	163	4	429	964	2,630	91	185	5
1973 September†	6,733	12	1,401	18	418	141	3	450	848	2,403	92	215	6
Per cent change	−2.2	−0.8	+3.2	−2.6	+8.1	−13.2	−37.1	+5.0	−12.0	−8.6	+0.8	+16.1	+12.0

§ Including products not shown separately. Excluding fuel consumed by refineries. † Excluding refinery consumption.

TABLE 16. MEAN DAILY AIR TEMPERATURE AT SEA LEVEL

Degrees centigrade†

	England and Wales				Scotland				Northern Ireland			
	Average 1931-1960	1971	1972	1973	Average 1931-1960	1971	1972	1973	Average 1931-1960	1971	1972	1973
Annual mean	10.2	10.4	9.8		8.7	9.1	8.5		9.2	9.5	8.6	
January	4.3	5.2	4.5	5.2	3.5	4.8	4.1	5.2	3.8	4.8	3.4	5.3
February	4.5	5.4	5.0	5.0	3.9	5.3	4.3	4.0	4.3	5.4	4.3	4.3
March	6.4	5.7	7.0	6.9	5.4	5.4	5.7	6.4	6.0	5.5	5.3	5.9
April	8.8	8.1	8.8	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.8	6.2	8.0	7.5	8.0	6.9
May	11.7	12.0	11.1	11.8	10.2	10.9	10.2	9.7	10.6	10.5	9.5	10.2
June	14.8	13.0	12.4	15.3	12.9	11.4	11.3	13.3	13.5	11.9	10.7	13.8
July	16.4	17.0	15.7	15.9	14.6	14.6	14.2	14.4	14.9	15.2	14.6	14.9
August	16.4	16.2	15.6	16.9	14.3	13.9	13.3	14.2	14.7	14.3	13.3	15.1
September	14.3	14.8	12.4	14.8	12.4	13.2	11.0	12.3 p	12.7	13.4	11.2	12.9
October	10.8	12.1	11.2		9.4	10.5	10.1		9.7	11.2	10.1	
November	7.5	6.8	6.9		6.3	5.7	5.3		6.6	6.7	5.6	
December	5.6	7.3	6.6		4.7	7.1	5.4		4.8	6.5	5.5	

† To convert degrees centigrade into degrees Fahrenheit: multiply by 9, divide by 5, and add 32. p provisional. Source: Meteorological Office

MOTOR INDUSTRY

Turnover of the motor trades in the third quarter of 1973

THE total turnover of the motor trades in the third quarter of 1973 was 11 per cent more than a year earlier. This increase is above that for the second quarter but is lower than for any other quarter since early 1970.

Sales of new vehicles were 11 per cent more than a year earlier while used vehicles sales rose by 6 per cent over the same period.

'Other sales and receipts' (which include sales of petrol, oil, tyres, spares and accessories and receipts from servicing and repairs) rose by 12 per cent.

Revised figures

Revised figures now given for the first and second quarters incorporate returns which were received too late to be included in the figures published on June 14 and August 16 respectively.

Note

The statistics are of turnover at current prices. Movements therefore include the effect of price changes, including the introduction of VAT and car tax and changes in purchase tax. Turnover includes transactions between dealers in addition to final sales. Vehicles include commercial vehicles as well as private cars. The statistics are **not** seasonally adjusted.

The returns made by the voluntary panel are used to project the figures of turnover in a 'base year', obtained in a comprehensive inquiry to all motor traders. It is expected that more detailed quarterly statistics will be compiled when the results from the comprehensive inquiry for 1972, which is being conducted by the Business Statistics Office this year, are available.

TURNOVER OF THE MOTOR TRADES

Index numbers of turnover per quarter at current prices (including purchase tax or VAT and car tax)

Percentage change compared with a year earlier in brackets — 1967 = 100

	Total turnover	New vehicle sales	Used vehicle sales	Other sales
Turnover in 1967 (£ million)	(£4,234m)	(£1,510m)	(£766m)	(£1,958m)
1967	100	100	100	100
1968	109 (+ 9)	109 (+ 9)	105 (+ 5)	110 (+10)
1969	112 (+ 2)	105 (− 4)	102 (− 3)	120 (+ 9)
1970	126 (+13)	122 (+16)	117 (+14)	132 (+10)
1971	149 (+19)	158 (+29)	142 (+22)	146 (+11)
1972	173 (+16)	196 (+24)	159 (+12)	161 (+10)
1967 1st qtr.	97	101	94	95
2nd qtr.	106	110	110	101
3rd qtr.	101	94	106	104
4th qtr.	96	95	90	100
1968 1st qtr.	120 (+23)	139 (+37)	121 (+28)	104 (+10)
2nd qtr.	109 (+ 3)	102 (− 7)	108 (− 1)	114 (+13)
3rd qtr.	106 (+ 5)	96 (+ 2)	103 (− 3)	114 (+10)
4th qtr.	103 (+ 6)	100 (+ 6)	88 (− 2)	110 (+10)
1969 1st qtr.	111 (− 7)	113 (−19)	104 (−13)	112 (+ 8)
2nd qtr.	121 (+11)	119 (+17)	115 (+ 6)	124 (+ 9)
3rd qtr.	112 (+ 6)	101 (+ 6)	101 (− 3)	124 (+ 9)
4th qtr.	102 (− 1)	88 (−12)	89 (+ 1)	119 (+ 8)
1970 1st qtr.	124 (+11)	128 (+14)	115 (+11)	123 (+10)
2nd qtr.	133 (+10)	133 (+11)	126 (+ 9)	135 (+ 9)
3rd qtr.	126 (+12)	117 (+16)	116 (+16)	136 (+ 9)
4th qtr.	121 (+18)	111 (+26)	109 (+22)	134 (+13)
1971 1st qtr.	142 (+15)	155 (+21)	134 (+16)	136 (+10)
2nd qtr.	152 (+15)	160 (+21)	148 (+18)	147 (+ 9)
3rd qtr.	157 (+25)	164 (+40)	153 (+31)	153 (+13)
4th qtr.	146 (+21)	152 (+36)	133 (+22)	147 (+10)
1972 1st qtr.	166 (+17)	190 (+23)	158 (+18)	151 (+11)
2nd qtr.	182 (+20)	213 (+33)	169 (+14)	162 (+10)
3rd qtr.	176 (+12)	194 (+18)	161 (+ 5)	168 (+10)
4th qtr.	169 (+16)	187 (+23)	149 (+12)	165 (+12)
1973 1st qtr. r	204 (+23)	251 (+32)	187 (+19)	175 (+16)
2nd qtr. r	193 (+ 6)	220 (+ 3)	168 (− 1)	182 (+12)
3rd qtr.	195 (+11)	215 (+11)	170 (+ 6)	189 (+12)

Hosiery and other knitted goods: index of production (1970 = 100)

IN the three months ended August 1973 the volume of production of hosiery and other knitted goods, seasonally adjusted, (including knitted fabrics) was provisionally estimated to have been 8 per cent less than in the three months ended May 1973 and 3 per cent less than in the three months ended August 1972.

The seasonally adjusted figures for 1973 are based on the seasonal pattern up to the end of 1972 and may be subject to slight revision when the complete figures for 1973 have been incorporated. The actual figures allow for differences in the length of calendar months, but not for other seasonal variations.

The unadjusted index of production (excluding warp knitting) will be published later.

1970 = 100

1968	88
1969	98
1970	100
1971	99
1972	100

	Including warp knitting	
	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1972 1st quarter	90	97
2nd quarter	99	101
3rd quarter	97	100
4th quarter	113	101
1973 1st quarter	97	104
2nd quarter p	100	103
1972 January	85	99
February	85	89
March	100	102
April	92	98
May	100	107
June	105	99
July	90	102
August	89	98
September	113	100
October	116	97
November	121	101
December	101	104
1973 January	86	100
February	101	105
March	105	108
April p	95	102
May p	99	106
June p	106	100
July p	85	97
August p	85	93

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WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX NUMBERS

Output prices rose 1½ per cent in October

THE provisional price index for home sales of manufactured products rose just over 1½ per cent in October. This was about the same as the revised estimate of the increase in September. The rate of increase in these two months was greater than that during the first four months (between April and August) of Stage Two of the counter-inflationary programme, which was about 1 per cent a month. The speeding up in the rate of increase was particularly pronounced in prices of products of the engineering and allied industries.

The provisional price index for basic materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry rose 4¼ per cent in October, and was 42 per cent higher than 12 months before. The month's increase was mainly attributable to higher prices for crude oil.

Materials and fuel purchased by broad sectors of industry (Table 1)

The higher crude oil prices were the main element in an increase of nearly 3 per cent in the index for the chemical and allied industries, but the major crude oil user, the petroleum products industry, is not included among the selected broad sectors of industry in Table 1.

During the past two months, index numbers for all sectors rose less fast (most of them less than half as fast) than during the preceding two months, when many import prices had risen particularly strongly.

Apart from the index for the chemicals industries which rose 3 per cent and that for the timber industries, which rose 5 per cent, increases were confined to 1 or 2 per cent between August and October.

Notes on Wholesale Price Index Numbers

(1) Detailed notes on index numbers of wholesale prices were last shown in *Trade and Industry* of June 21, 1973.

(2) The index numbers are constructed on a net sector basis. This is to say, the price movements used to compile the index for a particular sector of industry are only those relating to transactions between the sector and other sectors. Transactions between undertakings in the same sector are excluded. Thus index numbers for the whole of manufacturing industry are not weighted averages of sector index numbers.

(3) **Correspondence about wholesale price index numbers should be addressed to Statistics Division, DTI, Room 610, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB. Telephone inquiries for price index numbers should be made to 01-222 7877, Ext. 3549 (Engineering), 3509 (Chemicals, Steel, Building Materials, etc.), 3548 (Textiles, Clothing, Timber, Paper, etc.), 5844 (Imported Commodities) and 3411 for all other information.**

Output of broad sectors of industry: home sales (Table 2)

Prices of products of the food manufacturing industries, rose 2½ per cent in October, the same as in September, with a particularly sharp increase in prices of animal and poultry foods.

Prices of paper products also rose strongly in October, and were 2¾ per cent higher than in September. Prices in most other sectors rose 1½ to 2 per cent in October on provisional figures but less than this (a little over ½ per cent) in the case of steel and of chemicals. Between August and October price increases have been greater than during the preceding two months in all sectors except food, chemicals and textiles.

TABLE 1. PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF MATERIALS PURCHASED 1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1972		1973			1972	1973							
		3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr. p	Oct.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept. p	Oct. p
	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry														
Orders III to XIX	Basic materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry:	109.4	115.6	126.0	133.4	150.5	112.9	129.4	130.5	132.4	137.3	145.1	152.4	153.8	160.3
	Basic materials	108.7	115.6	126.9	134.8	153.2	112.6	130.6	131.7	133.8	139.0	147.4	155.3	156.9	164.0
	øFuel	112.4	112.4	112.4	112.4	114.3	112.4	112.4	112.4	112.4	112.4	114.3	114.3	114.3	114.3
Orders IV to XIX	Basic materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry, other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	108.4	113.5	122.4	129.4	144.3	112.3	127.1	127.7	128.5	132.1	140.5	145.0	147.5	155.0
	Basic materials other than fuel	107.8	113.7	124.0	132.0	148.9	112.2	129.3	130.0	131.0	135.3	144.6	149.7	152.5	161.1
	Materials and fuels purchased by Selected Broad Sectors of Industry														
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	112.1	119.6	130.5	138.4	155.9	114.8	131.4	133.7	137.5	143.9	149.1	159.5	158.9	162.9
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	113.0	116.1	119.5	124.7	138.0	115.1	121.1	121.6	124.6	127.8	134.5	139.6	140.0	143.8
311 to 312	Steel industries	115.1	117.1	118.1	122.0	127.7	116.4	118.7	119.9	122.6	123.4	126.9	127.7	128.4	129.1
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering industries	113.9	115.2	116.9	122.3	128.5	114.7	118.0	118.5	123.3	125.2	127.4	128.8	129.4	131.0
Order IX	Electrical engineering industries	105.3	107.1	112.1	119.3	130.8	106.5	115.7	116.9	119.0	122.1	128.6	132.1	131.7	134.6
361	Electrical machinery industry	109.7	111.1	113.8	119.8	128.1	110.6	115.8	116.4	120.2	122.9	126.4	128.6	129.3	131.3
Order XIII	Textile industries	118.5	134.2	156.0	158.3	169.9	132.7	167.6	157.0	156.6	161.3	164.6	170.8	174.2	173.1
Order XV	Clothing and footwear industries	118.4	125.5	129.8	134.3	140.9	123.6	132.0	132.1	134.4	136.5	138.6	141.3	142.8	143.0
Order XVII	Timber industries	115.6	121.0	130.3	149.8 r	175.3	119.4	135.8	141.4 r	150.4 r	157.4 r	169.8 r	175.0	181.1	184.2
481 to 484	Paper industries	109.8	112.8	116.0	116.5	130.0	111.7	115.8	116.7	116.3	116.5	128.0	129.9	132.3	132.2
Order XX	Construction materials	117.4	121.0	124.5	131.0	140.7	119.6	126.2	128.0	131.1	133.9	138.7	141.0	142.5	143.5
Part of Order XX	House building materials	119.6	123.8	128.2	135.3	146.4	122.1	130.2	132.4	135.4	138.3	144.3	146.5	148.3	149.1

ø Coal (except for carbonising), gas and electricity. Crude oil and coal for carbonising are included in basic materials. r revised

PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF OUTPUT, 1963 = 100—Revision of multiplication factors

For users of 1963 based index numbers who wished to continue these series, a set of multiplication factors were published in *Trade and Industry* on June 21, 1973.

As a consequence of the revision published on July 19 in respect of Table 2—Output (Home Sales) of the Electrical Engineering Industries—the multiplication factor for this sector should be revised to 1.23789.

TABLE 2. PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF OUTPUT (HOME SALES)

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1972		1973			1972	1973							
		3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr. p	Oct.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept. p	Oct. p
Orders III to XIX	Output of Manufactured Products	115.6	118.0	119.5	120.1	124.2	117.3	120.0†	118.8	120.1	121.3	122.7	124.1	125.9	128.0
Orders IV to XIX	Products of manufacturing industries other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	117.7	120.4	121.4	123.5	127.4	119.6	121.7†	122.1	123.6	124.9	126.0	127.2	129.0	131.0
	Output of Selected Broad Sectors of Industry														
211 to 229	Products of the food manufacturing industries	114.8	117.6	122.4	126.9	135.8	117.6	124.1	125.4	126.5	128.9	132.1	135.9	139.3	142.9
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	114.2	116.5	117.0	117.1	119.2	116.2	117.2†	116.9	117.1	117.2	118.3	119.4	120.0	120.9
311 and 312	Steel industries	116.2	116.5	116.6	124.1	128.6	116.3	116.6	117.2	126.9	128.2	128.3	128.6	128.8	129.5
Orders VII to XII	Engineering and allied industries	117.0	119.4	120.2	122.1	125.8	118.5	120.5†	120.8	122.0	123.4	124.3	125.4	127.7	129.6
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering	118.9	121.3	121.7	123.9	127.4	120.8	121.8	122.3	123.9	125.5	126.3	127.2	128.7	131.1
Order IX	Electrical engineering	114.1	115.1	115.7	117.2 r	120.4	115.0	116.0	116.4	116.9	118.3	119.0	120.1	122.0	123.9
Order XIII	Textile industries	112.9	118.1	122.3	127.7	134.4	116.6	123.8	125.7	127.2	130.1	132.3	134.6	136.3	138.8
Order XV	Clothing and footwear	114.1	116.9	118.1	119.9	122.8	116.2	118.5	118.9	120.1	120.8	121.4	122.5	124.3	125.8
Order XVII	Timber industries	120.8	127.2	128.8	136.3 r	145.7	125.8	129.4	132.1 r	137.4 r	139.4 r	142.8 r	145.3	148.9	151.7
481 to 484	Paper industries	114.6	116.8	117.8	119.7	125.0	116.5	118.1	118.4	119.7	121.1	123.1	125.2	126.9	130.3
Order XX	New construction‡	124	134	139	144 p			139			144 p				

‡ Index of building costs relate to average for the quarter. (*Department of the Environment*)

† Reduction in the VAT-exclusive prices of alcoholic liquor, tobacco and cigarettes, matches and mechanical lighters took place in April. These reductions resulted from lower revenue duties designed to offset additional tax revenue from VAT. With unchanged prices in April for these products, index numbers for months from April onwards would have been higher by the following:

All Manufactured Products: 1.7 points
Chemicals and Allied industries: 0.2 points
Other index numbers marked † less than 0.05 points r revised

(*continued on next page*)

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX NUMBERS
continued

TABLE 3(a). COMMODITIES PRODUCED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM 1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1972 Sept.	1973 June	July	Aug.	Sept. p
101	Coal	128.5	128.1	135.6	135.6	135.6
102/1	Coated limestone roadstone	124.8	128.0	129.5	129.6	129.8
103	Sand and gravel—ex-pit or works	120.1	121.1	123.3	124.9	124.9
231	Beer†	111.7	93.8	93.8	93.7	93.7
240	Tobacco†	102.5	91.7	91.7	91.7	91.7
262	Motor spirit, Two star (including duty)	107.8	111.5	111.5	111.5	111.5
	Medium fuel oil (950 secs.)	131.7	133.7	133.7	133.7	133.7
	Derv fuel (including duty)	107.0	108.9	108.9	108.9	108.9
263	Lubricating oil and greases	121.3	134.9	137.5	137.5	137.5
271	General chemicals	110.6	112.8	114.1	115.4	116.0
272	Pharmaceutical preparations	110.6	111.1	111.6	112.9	113.7
273	Toilet preparations ø	120.3	123.4	124.2	125.0	125.2
274	Paint	123.9	126.2	126.2	126.9	128.0
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials	103.7	103.6	105.4	106.1	106.6
311/2	Steel sheets—other than stainless and electrical sheets	116.5	132.0	132.0	132.1	132.1
	Tinplate	118.5	131.4	131.4	131.4	131.4
	Finished steel	115.3	127.6	127.6	127.9	128.0
	Steel sheet piling	119.4	132.4	132.5	132.6	132.6
	Heavy bars and sections	119.0	132.0	132.0	132.1	132.1
	Light re-rolled bars and sections	117.7	131.9	132.0	132.0	132.0
312	Steel tubes—other than electric conduit tubes	121.6	130.0	130.2	130.9	132.4
313/3 and 313/4	Iron castings	122.1	131.0	132.2	133.0	133.8
313/4	Cast and spun iron pipes and fittings	119.7	124.7	124.8	127.5	131.8
321	Aluminium: Rolled Extruded and drawn aluminium products—other than wire	112.4	115.5	118.3	119.3	119.3
	Aluminium: Castings	110.3	121.2	122.0	122.9	123.9
	Aluminium: Forgings	111.4	111.4	111.4	111.4	116.4
322	Brass ingots	79.0	111.3	122.4	127.8	125.1
331	Agricultural machinery	121.5	128.7	129.6	130.9	135.8
333	Pumps, valves, compressors, fluid power equipment	119.1	124.8	125.8	126.7	126.9
336	Construction and earth moving equipment	121.5	126.8	128.2	129.9	130.9
368	Domestic electrical appliances	114.6	113.8	115.2	115.5	116.9
391	Hand tools and implements	120.8	126.2	127.8	129.1	132.6
392	Cutlery and tableware	118.1	125.4	125.6	126.0	127.3

1968 SIC		1972 Sept.	1973 June	July	Aug.	Sept. p
411	Man-made fibres production	104.0	105.1	106.3	107.2	107.1
412, 414/5 and 415	All spun man-made fibres, yarns	115.1	123.4	125.8	127.8	131.8
412	Cotton yarns, cotton-spun man-made fibres yarns and mixtures of both	116.9	131.3	138.6	153.3	161.0
413/1	Woven cotton cloth in the loomstate	119.8	131.6	137.0	143.5	151.5
413/5	Man-made fibres fabrics in the loomstate	116.4	130.3	132.6	133.9	135.7
414/2	Yarns of wool spun on the worsted system	134.4	189.5	193.4	195.9	194.8
417	Hosiery and other knitted goods	106.2	114.6	116.9	117.9	118.5
419	Carpets and rugs	114.4	131.0	132.5	132.7	132.8
431/1	Leather for footwear	151.9	159.4	158.2	158.2	159.5
441/449	Made-up clothing	113.6	117.7	118.3	119.2	121.4
450	Footwear—including rubber footwear	119.1	129.1	129.7	131.6	132.2
461/1	Refractory goods, including bricks	121.6	123.7	125.5	127.0	127.0
461/2	Non-refractory goods, including building bricks	128.7	133.7	137.1	137.2	137.3
	Engineering bricks—*delivered*	143.4	154.1	158.6	158.6	158.6
464	Cement—*delivered*	127.4	127.4	127.4	127.4	127.4
471/1	Hardwood—home grown‡	121.9	159.6	162.9	170.0	188.3
471/2	Building joinery	127.8	153.7	162.9	165.5	170.9
472	Domestic furniture	120.5	130.0	130.8	132.7	133.2
473	Bedding, etc.	123.3	131.2	132.4	133.2	137.6
481	Paper and board	112.1	116.3	122.0	124.3	125.2
482/1	Cardboard boxes, cartons and fibreboard packing cases	115.6	122.1	122.5	124.8	125.3
483	Manufactured stationery	121.7	125.7	126.5	128.3	131.8
484/1	Wallpaper	118.5	125.7	125.7	125.7	126.1
491/1	Rubber tyres and tubes	116.7	118.5	118.4	120.3	120.6
492	Linoleum and felt base	114.1	115.6	115.6	115.6	115.6

† Reductions in the VAT-exclusive price of beer and tobacco took place in April. This reduction resulted from lower revenue duties designed to offset additional tax revenue from VAT.

ø Revised Figures	Jan. 73	Feb. 73	Mar 73	Apr. 73	May 73
	123.0	123.0	123.0	123.0	123.2

‡ Revised figures	Apr. 73	May 73
	141.4	150.9

TABLE 3(b). COMMODITIES WHOLLY OR MAINLY IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM 1970 = 100

	1972 Oct.	1973 July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Hides and skins	236.5	200.1	220.3	205.7	200.2
Non-ferrous metals:					
Aluminium, virgin ingot delivered	87.6	97.7	97.7	97.7	100.3
Copper‡	72.7	135.0	143.6	135.3	144.0
Lead‡	97.8	146.1	139.7	144.8	153.0
Nickel refined delivered §	117.7	109.6	111.2	114.0	116.8
Tin, ingot min. 99.75% ‡	102.6	127.6	132.4	135.1	144.6
Zinc‡	123.1	269.6	300.5	326.3	388.2
Imported zinc§	125.1	168.2	171.9	179.0	195.4
Natural rubber	94.3	197.7	193.8	179.9	173.3
Sulphur, crude, cif (for acid making)	89.0	96.7	96.7	96.7	96.7

	1972 Oct.	1973 July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Textiles:					
Cotton, raw	111.5	204.8	246.6	288.2	287.7
Wool, raw	219.4	316.6	326.7	319.0	307.4 p
Timber:					
Imported hardwood (ex-yard or wharf)	133.4	201.7	212.9	226.6 p	230.8 p
Imported plywood (delivered to consumers)	128.5	178.5	183.9	188.0 p	192.0 p
Imported softwood (delivered to consumers)	116.3	212.3	220.6	230.0 p	235.0 p
Woodpulp, imported	107.5	135.4	135.1	138.5	137.9

‡ LME settlement price. § Producers' price.

Index numbers of wholesale prices

The index numbers of wholesale prices relating to 1970 = 100 supersede those previously published on the base 1963 = 100. For the convenience of those who use the index numbers in long-term contracts to take account of changes in the costs of materials, the DTI will continue to publish indices relating to materials used in broad sectors of industry on the base 1963 = 100 until December 1975. From April 1973 the index numbers in the accompanying table have been given the month to month movements of the equivalent index in the 1970 = 100 Series. For users of other 1963 based index numbers who wish to continue the series in this way, multiplication factors will be provided on request.

Price index numbers of materials purchased

1963 = 100

1968 SIC		1973		
		Aug.	Sept. p	Oct. p
Orders III to XIX	Basic materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry:	199.5	201.4	209.9
	Basic materials	205.6	207.6	217.0
	Fuel	151.7	151.7	151.7
Orders IV to XIX	Basic materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry, other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	196.6	200.0	210.2
	Basic materials other than fuel	205.6	209.5	221.3
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	199.0	198.2	203.1
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	171.8	172.3	177.0
311 to 312	Steel industries	161.5	162.3	163.2
Order VII (excluding MHL 342)	Mechanical engineering industries	175.9	176.7	179.0
Order IX	Electrical engineering industries	203.4	202.9	207.3
361	Electrical machinery industry	189.9	190.9	193.9
Order XIII	Textile industries	194.2	198.2	196.9
Order XV	Clothing and footwear industries	172.2	174.0	174.2
Order XVII	Timber industries ø	235.5	243.7	247.9
481 to 484	Paper industries	171.7	174.9	174.8
Order XX	Construction materials	185.9	187.9	189.2
Part of Order XX	House building materials	195.5	196.8	197.9

ø Revised figures	Apr. 73	May 73	June 73	July 73
	190.3	202.4	211.8	228.5

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Acquisitions and mergers in the third quarter

THIS note sets out the latest statistics of industrial and commercial companies' acquisitions and mergers, giving details up to and including the third quarter of 1973. The figures in Tables 1 and 2 are taken from a detailed analysis of companies' acquisitions published this month in a Business Monitor, M7, Acquisitions and Mergers of Companies (obtained from HMSO quarterly for an annual subscription of 37½p). The Business Monitor also contains tables analysing acquisitions and mergers by industry.

The number of companies acquired and the total consideration paid increased in the third quarter and the total consideration paid increased in the third quarter of 1973. There were 274 acquisitions reported in the financial press in the third quarter at a cost of £431 million compared with 255 companies purchased in the second quarter for a consideration of £205 million. In 1972 303 companies were acquired on average each quarter at a cost of £633 million. The average consideration paid per company in the third quarter was just over £1.5 million compared with less than £1 million in the second quarter and over £2 million paid in 1972.

These comparisons are influenced mainly by the incidence of large acquisitions. In the third quarter there were 4 acquisitions involving a consideration of more than £25 million (see table 2), compared with only one in each of the first two quarters of the year. There were 13 such purchases during 1972, and of these 9 cost over £50 million; there has been only one acquisition of this size in 1973. This was the acquisition by Town and Country Properties of Central and District Properties, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Keyser Ullman Holdings, for £97 million and was the largest inter-group acquisition recorded since the series began. However, the proportion by number of all acquisitions accounted for by sales of subsidiary companies has fallen this year, from 23 per cent in 1972 to 21 per cent in the second quarter and 18 per cent in the third quarter.

The proportion of the consideration paid in cash increased sharply and reached 72 per cent in the third quarter, the first time that this form of payment has been the most important. Cash payments accounted for 40 per cent in the first half of the year, and only 20 per cent in 1972. Issues of ordinary shares accounted for only 23 per cent of the total consideration in the third quarter compared with 47 per cent in the first half of the year and 58 per cent in 1972. Issues of fixed investment securities also accounted for a much smaller proportion, only 5 per cent compared with 13 per cent in the first six months of the year and 23 per cent in 1972.

There were 15 major acquisitions of foreign companies by United Kingdom companies in the third quarter involving an expenditure of nearly £11 million. 5 large United Kingdom companies were acquired by foreign companies for a total consideration of just over £15 million.

Notes and definitions

This analysis of acquisitions and mergers involving industrial and commercial companies in the United Kingdom is based on reports in the financial press supplemented by special inquiries to companies to determine the form, value and timing of particular acquisitions.

Acquisitions and mergers involving financial companies (insurance, banking, etc.) are not covered in this note, although the Bank of England prepares an analysis of such acquisitions which is published in the *Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin*.

The values shown relate in general to expenditure during the current period, excluding any previous investments in the company acquired. Where possible, values are market values, ie the cash paid or the market price at date of issue of shares or loan stock issued. Where market values are not available (as in the case of shares, etc., issued by non-quoted companies) or the cash consideration is not disclosed, acquisitions are in general valued at the net book value of the acquired company.

No method of valuing acquisitions is altogether free from objection and in comparing this series over time one must allow, in addition to the general upward inflation of values, for the considerable short-term fluctuations in share prices which will be reflected in a series where a considerable proportion of expenditure takes the form of share exchanges which are valued at market prices. For example, industrial share prices as measured by the *Financial Times* actuaries index fell by over a tenth between 1969 and 1970, rose by 18 per cent between 1970 and 1971, with a further 27 per cent increase in 1972.

TABLE 1. ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS WITHIN THE UNITED KINGDOM

	Acquisitions of independent companies			Mergers†			Total			Sales of subsidiaries between company groups			Total number of acquisitions		
	Number Acquiring	Number Acquired	Value £ million	Number Acquiring	Number Acquired	Value £ million	Number Acquiring	Number Acquired	Value £ million	Number Acquiring	Number Acquired	Value £ million	Number Acquiring	Number Acquired	Value £ million
1969	593	742	961.6	2	2	7.6	595	744	969.2	91	102	99.7	686	846	1,068.9
1970	484	608	954.1	6	6	42.5	490	614	996.6	139	179	125.9	629	793	1,122.5
1971	498	620	745.6	—	—	—	498	620	745.6	189	264	165.5	687	884	911.1
1972	710	931	2,336.9	6	7	9.3	716	938	2,346.2	212	272	185.4	928	1,210	2,531.6
1971 1st quarter	89	110	62.1	—	—	—	89	110	62.1	43	49	27.7	132	159	89.8
2nd quarter	121	148	142.5	—	—	—	121	148	142.5	53	71	44.7	174	219	187.2
3rd quarter	129	156	255.7	—	—	—	129	156	255.7	40	69	31.9	169	225	287.6
4th quarter	159	206	285.3	—	—	—	159	206	285.3	53	75	61.2	212	281	346.5
1972 1st quarter	156	207	426.0	2	2	0.1	158	209	426.1	53	69	39.6	211	278	465.7
2nd quarter	192	260	375.2	3	3	1.5	195	263	376.7	52	63	44.8	247	326	421.5
3rd quarter	166	220	666.2	1	2	7.7	167	222	673.9	50	63	52.2	217	285	726.1
4th quarter	196	244	869.5	—	—	—	196	244	869.5	57	77	48.8	253	321	918.3
1973 1st quarter	195	278	280.4	—	—	—	195	278	280.4	63	84	43.3	258	362	323.7
2nd quarter	163	202	179.2	—	—	—	163	202	179.2	43	53	26.2	206	255	205.4
3rd quarter	171	222	297.0	2	2	2.3	173	224	299.3	40	50	132.0	213	274	431.3

† A merger is reckoned as the acquisition of the smaller company by the larger company involved in the transaction and valued at the market value of the smaller company's share of the newly formed company.

TABLE 2. SIZE DISTRIBUTION OF ACQUISITIONS WITHIN THE UNITED KINGDOM

	1971		1972		1972 Q4		1973 Q1		1973 Q2		1973 Q3	
Expenditure (£ million)	Number Acquired	Value £m.	Number Acquired	Value £m.	Number Acquired	Value £m.	Number Acquired	Value £m.	Number Acquired	Value £m.	Number Acquired	Value £m.
Over 25	3	112.4	13	1,322.2	7	626.6	1	28.1	1	29.9	4	193.4
Over 5 and up to 25	37	399.1	57	604.8	13	144.9	17	158.4	7	60.9	10	89.4
Over 2 and up to 5	51	158.7	77	239.8	17	50.5	10	30.4	12	37.3	14	40.3
2 or less	793	240.9	1,063	364.9	284	96.4	334	106.8	235	77.3	246	108.2
Total	884	911.1	1,210	2,531.7	321	918.4	362	323.7	255	205.4	274	431.3

Where the acquired company was a subsidiary of another United Kingdom company, it was classified to the category of inter-group sales. Acquisitions between subsidiaries of the same company group, arising from internal reorganisation, have been ignored.

Each acquiring company is allotted to an industry group corresponding generally to an Order of the Standard Industrial Classification, 1968. Industrial holding companies which cannot be reasonably classified to any of the groups distinguished, and companies trading wholly overseas are treated as separate groups. Where a company has substantial overseas interests, it is classified as far as possible on the basis of its predominant activity within the United Kingdom. The choice between classifying a company to its main activity (which may be less than half its total activity) and classifying it as an industrial holding company is sometimes a fairly arbitrary one.

As far as possible, acquisitions are recorded at the date when the transaction is finalised (eg when a bid is declared unconditional). This date may be considerably later than the date when a bid is first announced in the press though preceding the date when the shares in the acquired company are surrendered.

Finance for technology

The National Research Development Corporation provides financial and other support for technological developments of potential commercial importance. NRDC promotes the adoption by industry of new products and processes invented in government laboratories, universities and elsewhere. NRDC is participating in joint ventures with industry on an increasing scale. By supporting projects NRDC makes it possible for individual firms or groups of companies to undertake and accelerate the development and production of new products and processes of national importance. The corporation welcomes submissions in confidence from firms who have promising new projects to launch in any branch of industry or commerce. The conditions for its considering proposals of this kind are set out in a leaflet which may be obtained on application, either by writing to the National Research Development Corporation, PO Box 236, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET; or by telephoning 01-828 3400.

METAL WORKING MACHINE TOOLS

Sales and orders in July

***Trade and Industry* for October 18 contained an article on the sales and orders of machine tools up to June of this year. Similar articles will be published each month, presenting the latest figures as these become available from the monthly inquiries. Every third article in the series will incorporate the results of the latest quarterly inquiry.**

STATISTICS of new orders and orders outstanding for metal working machine tools up to July reflect a continued expansion of domestic and export demand. Although sales to both home and export markets in July and in the three months ending July were a little lower than earlier this year, new orders have continued to flow in at rates well above current sales. The provisional July figures show total sales valued at £15½ million, while total new orders received were £24½ million and orders on hand had risen to £155 million, representing about nine months' future work at recent levels of sales.

Because monthly figures are variable and those for recent months are subject to revision, three monthly totals provide a more significant indication of recent trends. Totals on this basis up to July this year are presented in the accompanying table (see footnote * to table). They show that in the latest three months May-July total sales were 8 per cent lower than in the preceding three months but 21 per cent higher than in the corresponding period in 1972.

The decrease in total sales in recent months mainly reflects the falling off in home sales from the level reached earlier this year, which had been affected by the acceleration of Government ordering last summer. Home sales in May-July were nevertheless 29 per cent more than a year ago at current values, while export sales, which have not yet reflected the upturn in new orders were 8 per cent higher.

New home orders have risen markedly, by 10 per cent in the most recent three months and new export orders have levelled off at a high rate so that new contracts for both home and overseas delivery are well above current rates of sales and order books continue to lengthen. At the end of July total orders on hand were by value 18 per cent greater than three months earlier and 58 per cent higher than in July 1972.

METAL WORKING MACHINE TOOLS: SALES AND ORDERS

£million—current prices

	Sales			Orders outstanding			New orders		
	Total	Home	Export	Total	Home	Export	Total	Home	Export
1968	168.6	113.5	55.1	116.1	61.7	54.4	183.8	121.1	62.7
1969	189.1	119.1	70.0	164.2	93.3	70.9	237.2	150.7	86.5
1970	218.6	137.3	81.3	159.5	86.8	72.7	213.9	130.8	83.1
1971	207.7	121.7	86.0	106.0	46.0	60.0	154.2	80.9	73.7
1972	180.6	109.9	70.7	114.5	55.2	59.3	189.1	119.1	70.0
1972 3rd quarter	43.6	27.2	16.4	108.0	49.7	58.3	55.4	36.5	18.9
4th quarter p	49.3	30.6	18.7	114.5	55.2	59.3	55.8	36.1	19.7
1973 1st quarter	56.4	37.8	18.6	124.5	61.8	62.7	66.4	44.0	22.0
2nd quarter	52.3	32.1	20.2	144.1	73.5	70.6	74.1	46.0	28.1
1973 January p	17.1	11.7	5.4	117.2	58.3	58.9	19.8	14.8	5.0
February p	18.9	12.7	6.2	119.0	57.5	61.5	20.7	11.9	8.8
March p	20.4	13.4	7.0	124.5	61.8	62.7	25.9	17.7	8.2
April p	16.4	9.7	6.7	131.8	65.3	66.5	23.7	13.2	10.5
May p	17.1	11.0	6.1	138.0	69.3	68.7	23.3	15.0	8.3
June p	18.8	11.4	7.4	146.3	75.7	70.6	27.1	17.8	9.3
July p	15.5	10.3	5.2	155.2	79.9	75.3	24.4	14.5	9.9
				THREE MONTHLY TOTALS*					
Three months ended									
1972 July	42.6	25.3	17.3	98.0	44.0	54.0	41.7	28.7	13.0
1972 October	45.6	28.5	17.1	111.2	50.4	60.8	58.8	34.9	23.9
1973 January	50.6	32.4	18.2	117.2	58.3	58.9	56.6	40.3	16.3
1973 April	56.2	35.8	19.9	131.8	65.3	66.5	70.3	42.8	27.5
1973 July	51.4	32.7	18.7	155.2	79.9	75.3	74.8	47.3	27.5
Percentage change May-July on:									
1. Previous three months	−8	−9	−6	+18	+22	+13	+6	+10	−
2. On year earlier	+21	+29	+8	+58	+82	+39	+79	+65	+112

* The statistics in the table are not seasonally adjusted but although the monthly figures are variable, no pronounced seasonal patterns are evident for the sales or orders. The three monthly totals shown for consecutive periods ending in the latest month enable comparisons to be made between the most recent three monthly periods (usually the preceding three months or the same period a year earlier). These comparisons reduce the variability involved in comparing figures for single months.

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade and Industry under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, November 16, 1973.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered No.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Carry on Girls	BR/E 37122/18/11/78	88	November 14	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	Peter Rogers Productions Ltd. and G. T. Productions Ltd.
Big Zapper	BR/E 37124/18/11/78	90	November 14	Miracle Films Ltd.	Lindsay Shonteff Film Productions Ltd.
Review No. 3—27th Year	BR/E 37125/18/11/78	8	November 14	Data Film Distributors Ltd.	National Coal Board
Movietone News 2319	BR/E 37038/18/11/78	8	November 16	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
Movietone News 2319A	BR/E 37039/18/11/78	7	November 16	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			COMMUNITY		
The Contract	EC 37123/18/11/78	87	November 14	Miracle Films Ltd.	Cinemat. Daunia 70, Rome
King Queen Knave	EC 37126/18/11/78	89	November 15	LMG Film Distributors Ltd.	Maran-Film GmbH & Co. KG. Munich and Wolper Pictures Ltd., Los Angeles
Jailbreak in Hamburg	EC 37129/18/11/78	87	November 15	LMG Film Distributors Ltd.	Terra Filmkunst GmbH, Berlin, Allianz Filmproduktion GmbH, Berlin and Walter Koppel Film, Hamburg.
Love-Hungry Girls	EC 37130/18/11/78	84	November 15	English Film Company Ltd.	Makifilms, Paris and Elektra Film, Rome
Sex of Their Bodies	EC 37131/18/11/78	85	November 15	English Film Company Ltd	P.A.C. Produzione, Atlas Consorziate, Rome and Aquila Cinematografica, Rome
			FOREIGN		
Child's Play	F 37119	100	November 14	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	David Merrick Productions
Wings and Things	F 37120	18	November 14	Contemporary Films Ltd.	RA Films, London
Operation Makoniama	F 37121	95	November 14	Cathay Films Ltd.	Interfilmes Ltd., Surinam
Stork	F 37127	90	November 15	LMG Film Distributors Ltd.	Bilcock and Copping Film Productions (Pty) Ltd., Melbourne
The Spectre Of Edgar Allen Poe	F 37128	90	November 15	Doverton Films Ltd.	Cintel Productions, Hollywood

Note:
In the list of films registered during the week ended Friday, November 2, 1973, incorrect registration numbers were allocated for the following five films, the correct registration numbers are: 'Present Indicative'—BR/E 37100/4/11/78; 'Escape To The Sun'—BR/E 37102/4/11/78; 'Multiple Man'—BR/E 37104/4/11/78; 'The Sexy Darlings'—F 37101; 'Nest Of Gentlefolk'—F 37103.
Amendment to the Register:
The registration number of the film 'The Invitation' registered on October 18, 1973 has been amended to EC 37086/21/10/78.

GOVERNMENT SALES

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

November 28, 1973 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Ordnance Storage & Disposal Depot. RAOC, Branston, Staffs

Auctioneers: Arnold & Son (Depot L), Modwena House, 13 Market Place, Burton-on-Trent Staffs DE14 1HD (Tel: 0283-64657)

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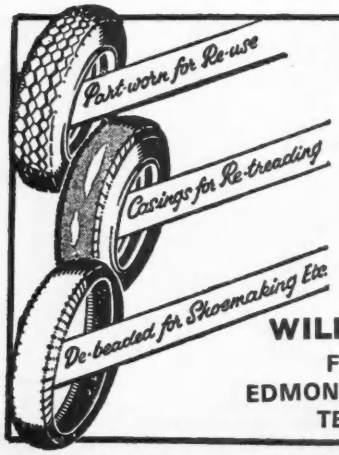

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December 6, 1973 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Golden Lion Hotel, King Street, Stirling

Auctioneers: Dixon & Wallace Ltd. (Dept. L), Bank Buildings, Graham Square, Glasgow G31 1AW (Tel: 041-554-2447/8/9)

Footwear, Greatcoats, Canvas sheeting and tentage, White sheets and blankets, Arctic clothing, Sleeping bags, Mattresses, Denim, Corduroy, Battledress and Blue serge trousers and blouses, Industrial-Electrical-Electronic Plant, Equipment and Assemblies, Ferrous and Nonferrous scrap, Electric cable, Batteries, MT spares, Telephone and Wireless components, Canteen equipment, Tape recorders, Oscilloscopes, Binoculars, Surgical equipment, Stop and wrist watches, Photographic materials, Generators, Compressors, Paints and Oils, Boxford 4½in lathe, Herbert No. 1 Capstan lathes, Fritz Werner and Archdale Milling machines, JS precision grinder, Besler trailer mounted oil fired boiler—5,000lb/hr, Leyland 2500 gal. refueller, Four Bedford 58 seater buses, Austin 1 ton 4 × 4 truck, Bedford 3 ton 4 × 4 van, Bedford 750 gal. water tender, Neal 6 ton mobile crane and other miscellaneous stores.

December 12, 1973 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: The Hilltop Motor Hotel, London Road, Carlisle

Auctioneers: Harrison & Hetherington Ltd. (Dept. L), Botchergate, Carlisle CA1 1SE (Tel: 0228-26292)

57 vehicles including Ford, Austin and Morris saloons; Ford estate cars; Morris ambulances, Commer and Austin vans; Morris mini buses; Fork lift trucks etc. Machine and Hand tools; Power units; Alternator units; Receiver units; Test sets; Modulators; Capacitors; Transistors; Thermostats; Transformers; Rectifiers; Indicators; Oscilloscopes; Electronic valves, Micrometers; Calipers, Clinometers; Gauges; Barometers; Thermometers; Cameras; Binoculars; Clocks and Watches. Miscellaneous textiles; Furniture; Paint; Seven timber buildings 3,000 to 10,000 sq. ft. and a 20,000 gal. water tank.

Catalogues of the above sales, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times etc. are available from the relevant auctioneers from two weeks prior to and up to the date of the sale, Price 10p (postal order only).

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in TRADE and INDUSTRY

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.
Dates before October 21, 1970, refer to articles in the *Board of Trade Journal*.

Title	Last published
Air transport:	
aircraft noise at Heathrow and Gatwick airports (Q)	May 25 1972
civil aviation balance of payments (A)	Mar. 16 1972
trade by air (6M)	Oct. 18 1973
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	This week
quarterly figures (Q)	Mar. 22 1973
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	Oct. 11 1973
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcy orders (Q)	June 7 1973
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	Mar. 1 1973
Capital expenditure:	
distributive and service trades (A)	Apr. 28 1971
manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	Oct. 4 1973
Catering trades turnover (M)	Nov. 15 1973
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	Aug. 2 1973
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	This week
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	Oct. 25 1973
N. Ireland (M)	Nov. 15 1973
Computers: UK market (Q)	May 24 1973
Construction work overseas (A)	Oct. 11 1973
ECGD business (Q)	June 21 1973
Electronic capital equipment (Q)	June 21 1973
Energy trends (M)	This week
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	Nov. 15 1973
Film industry:	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	Nov. 15 1973
cinema admissions and takings (M)	Nov. 15 1973
overseas payments and earnings (A)	Aug. 9 1973
registration of films (A)	Jan. 25 1973
trends in film going (A)	Aug. 19 1971
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	Aug. 30 1973
household consumption (Q)	Oct. 11 1973
Footwear industry:	
production, orders and deliveries (M)	Nov. 15 1973
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	Nov. 15 1973
Foreign trade:	
EFTA (Q)	Mar. 23 1972
industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	Aug. 16 1973
world exports of manufactures (A)	Sept. 30 1970
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Furniture orders and deliveries (M)	Nov. 15 1973
Hire-purchase business (M)	Nov. 8 1973
Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	This week
N. Ireland index (M)	Nov. 1 1973
Wales index (Q)	Oct. 18 1973
Insurance companies: investments and assets (A)	Aug. 30 1973
Investment:	
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years)	Nov. 15 1973
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	Oct. 11 1973
investment and earnings overseas (A)	Mar. 29 1973
Machine tools: deliveries and orders (M)	This week
Man-made fibres:	
deliveries (Q)	Aug. 30 1973
production (M)	Nov. 8 1973
production: quarterly analysis (Q)	Aug. 30 1973
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	Nov. 1 1973
estimated figures (M)	Nov. 15 1973
motor trade turnover (M)	Aug. 16 1973
Office development permits (Q)	Oct. 4 1973
Overseas trade of the UK:	
direct exporters and credit terms (A)	May 10 1973
ECGD business (Q)	June 21 1973
unit value and volume index numbers (M)	Nov. 15 1973
value: analysis of trends (Q)	Sept. 6 1973
(*see also* Balance of payments)	
Pension funds: investments and assets (A)	Aug. 30 1973
Retail prices index (M)	Nov. 1 1973
Retail trades:	
sales (M)	Nov. 8 1973
sales, N. Ireland (M)	Oct. 25 1973
stocks (M)	Nov. 15 1973
Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	Apr. 12 1973
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	Nov. 2 1972
Steel consumption and stocks (Q)	Aug. 16 1973
Stocks:	
distributive and service trades (A)	Apr. 28 1971
manufacturers' and distributors' (Q)	Oct. 4 1973
retail (M)	Oct. 11 1973
Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	Aug. 9 1973
Textiles:	
activity in the industry (Q)	Aug. 2 1973
carpet sales (M)	Oct. 25 1973
cotton industry production (M)	Oct. 25 1973
hosiery production (M)	This week
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	Nov. 15 1973
orders and deliveries (M)	Nov. 8 1973
wholesale houses' sales (M)	Nov. 15 1973
wool exports (Q)	June 14 1973
wool output (M)	Nov. 15 1973
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	Nov. 1 1973
overseas travel and tourism (A)	Dec. 21 1972
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	Mar. 29 1973
index numbers (M)	This week

Dept. of Trade and Industry organisation etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representation overseas	Oct. 4 1973
Business Monitor titles	Sept. 6 1973
Customs notices of interest to exporters	Oct. 25 1973
ECGD local offices	This week
Guide to DTI	Aug. 30 1973
Official Receivers' offices	Nov. 15 1973
Programme of trade promotions	Oct. 18 1973
Release dates of economic statistics	Oct. 25 1973

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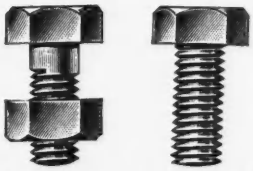

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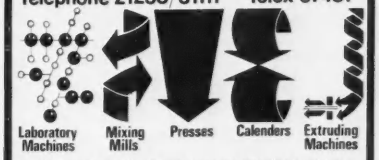

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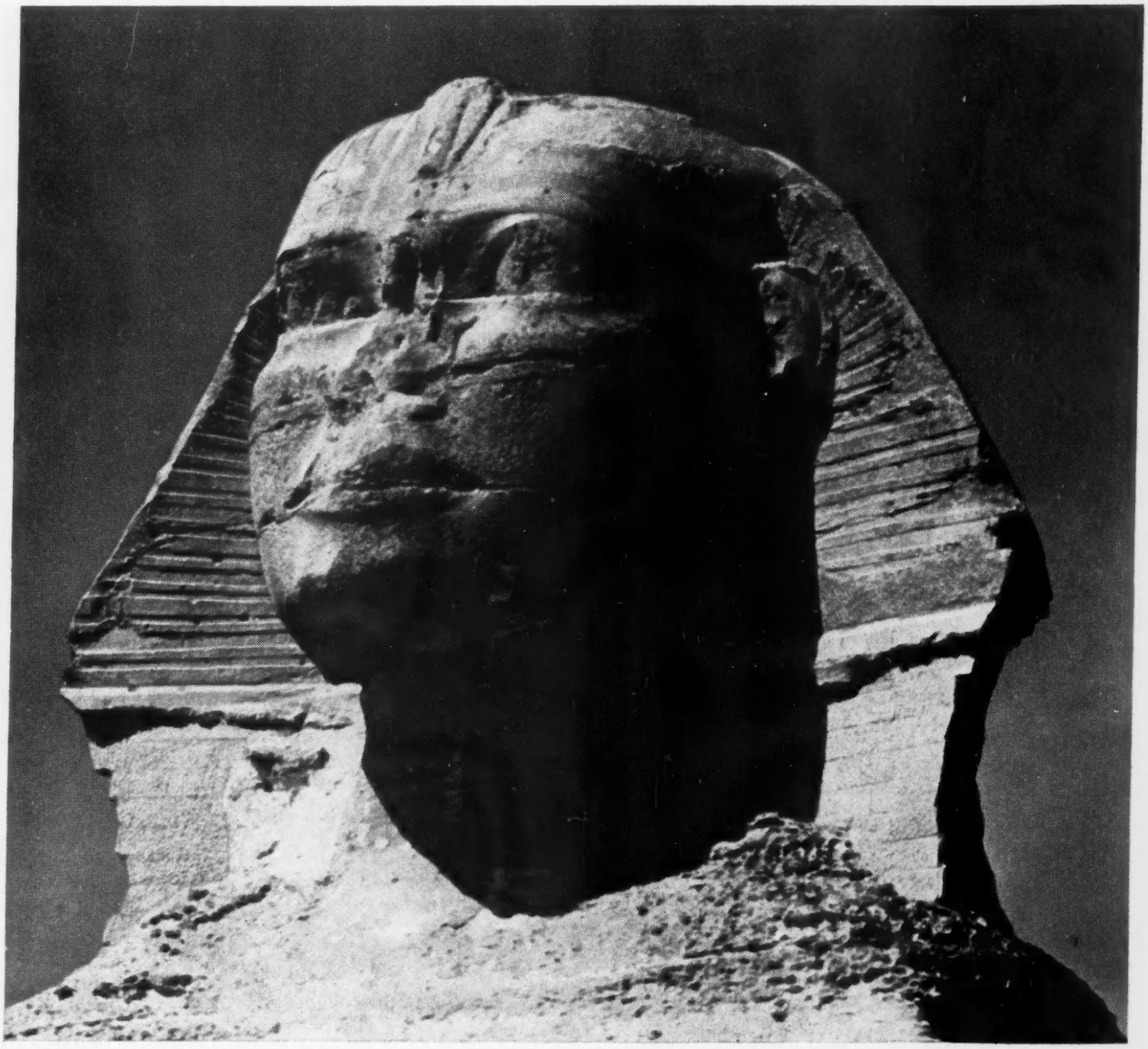

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